



COVID-19 Message: *First and foremost friends, be safe. Follow all government recommendations and your employers requests. While you are working from home or socially distancing, take this time to update your resume, practice your interviewing skills, research leadership methods and styles, read your favorite book, put your writing skills to work or practice online communications with an elderly person who feels isolated. This newsletter has resources for COVID-19 information and career building suggestions you can use during this time. We will gather again when it is safe. We are resilient. We will make it through this alone—together!*

President’s Message



I am excited and honored to be elected as your President of NAMIC-Detroit. Serving is my lifelong passion, and I endeavor to give it my all. I am eager to work with the entire NAMIC leadership team to support a cohesive model that continues to reflect the mission of the organization.

NAMIC Detroit provides a vast platform to serve our members through career enrichment resources and tools. Our work empowers, educates and advocates for multi-ethnic diversity in the communications industry, so that we develop a pipeline of diverse talent and have representation at all levels.

As our previous president reported in December, over the past two years we have had the privilege of serving more than 200 members, hosted 13 professional development events and created a coalition across metro Detroit with our seven non-profit multi-cultural partners. Among our network we have celebrated our members’ accepting career promotions and new job offers, elevating their skills, acquiring leadership responsibilities and leading new projects. We will continue the tradition of successful programming, enlightening mentorships, promoting leadership opportunities, networking and more. I look forward to a fantastic year! Thank you in advance for your dedication and support of NAMIC- Detroit! It’s going to be a fantastic year!

Respectfully.

Maria W. Holmes
President

CONNECT VIA SOCIAL MEDIA!



Advisor Mark S. Lee speaks about NAMIC



NAMIC Detroit Leadership Updates

The end of 2019 marked the conclusion of a two-year term for our past president, Jackie Lenton. We appreciate her trailblazing work and dedication to this organization during a pivotal time in our young development. Her leadership, commitment to excellence and extraordinary vision propelled NAMIC-Detroit to new heights. Jackie, we appreciate you!

Shezaina (Ina) Akyalcin was nominated and subsequently elected as the next president to begin her tenure in January. She set out on a course to develop a successful and comprehensive chapter plan. Just shy of finalizing the plan, a fantastic career opportunity arose for Ina and we are glad to report that she accepted a cybersecurity role with Comcast in Philadelphia. So, while we must say good-bye too soon to an amazing and ground-breaking leader, the foundation Ina established for 2020 allows us to hit the ground running in the midst of this transition. We have a solid team working together to move the organization forward. Thank you Ina for your great preparation for 2020!

2020 NAMIC-Detroit Board

- President, Maria Holmes
- Vice President, Yolanda Day
- Secretary, Shannon Dulin
- Treasurer, Harry Howard
- Immediate Past President, Shezaina Akyalcin
- Past President, Jackie Lenton
- Advisor, Scott Anderson
- Advisor, Pamela Dover
- Advisor, Michelle Gilbert
- Advisor, Parvathy Hariharan
- Advisor, Abhijeet Kumar
- Advisor, Mark S. Lee
- Advisor, Gerald Smith

Committee Leads:

- ◇ Membership/Recruitment Subcommittee Chair - **Brooke Hill**
- ◇ Events/Programming Subcommittee Chair - **Tashia Mickie**
- ◇ PR/Marketing (Website/Social Media) Subcommittee Chair - **Aris Livingston**
- ◇ Financials/Business Plan/ Sponsorships Chair - **Benitra Fair**
- ◇ Diversity Partnerships Chair- **Gerald Smith**

Hone your skills.

Advance your Career
Stay engaged.

Here are a few examples of what you can do:

- ⇒ **Find a great topic** to review on [NAMIC’s YouTube Channel — NAMICNational](#)
- ⇒ **Check out these Mentoring Webinars!** NAMIC has uploaded some [webinars](#) on topics such as Generational Divide and Unconscious Biases.
- ⇒ **Try Online Learning:** Log in as a member at www.NAMIC.com & select “Insect@NAMIC” as you hover over the Home tab. This is where NAMIC’s online learning documents are housed. They’ll find papers and videos on The Art of Negotiation and Reaching Your Audience.
- ⇒ **Enter to Win:** If you do at least two of the above activities, you can enter to win a \$50 gift card.

Engage and make it count!
Enter [here](#) to win!

COVID-19 Resources:

- State of Michigan:** <https://www.michigan.gov/Coronavirus>
- National Center for Disease Control:** <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- How to talk with children about COVID-19:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/talking-with-children.html>
- How to help the elderly:** <https://www.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2020/coronavirus-facts.html>