

# Thy Noble Shrine

FAMU NAA Miami-Dade Chapter Newsletter  
FALL 2019



As of  
11/30/2019



Current Membership: 104  
Membership Goal: 160  
Percentage of Goal: 65%



Current Scholarship Amount: \$11,541.97

## COVER STORY

### BOWLING FOR SCHOLARS A STRIKING SUCCESS

JASON MOODY - On a cloudy Sunday afternoon in Davie, FL, Miami-Dade Rattlers are seen exiting their vehicles and filing into SpareZ Bowling Alley. As the fanged FAMUans enter the alley, a sea of patrons donning their best versions of citrus orange and agricultural green can be clearly seen. Current, future, and alumni Rattlers were present that afternoon to bowl for a purpose.

On October 13, 2019 The Miami-Dade Chapter of the FAMU National Alumni Association held their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bowling for Scholars Event. With the goal of raising scholarship funds for current and future Rattlers in mind, the Miami-Dade Chapter definitely showed out. Spearheaded by Governmental Relations Chair Dr. Cassandra Arnold, the event was sold-out with a total of 45 lanes purchased and 225 people in attendance. Although this event was hosted by the Miami-Dade Chapter of the FAMU NAA, Rattlers weren't the only attendees at the event. With a few Hornets hailing from Alabama State University as well as some Lions from Florida Memorial University in attendance, the HBCU Family support was in full effect.

The event was co-sponsored by AT&T Pioneers, Black Professionals Network, and Prymus Angels. Both classic and current hits were played throughout the bowling alley by The Legendary DJ Bre, and creative FAMU-inspired apparel was sold by vendor Dungeon Forward. Members of the Divine Nine were also in attendance, representing their respective organizations while also bowling for a cause. To bring the event to a close, the top three teams with the highest scores were awarded trophies and a cake was cut in order to celebrate FAMU's 132<sup>nd</sup> birthday. With over \$7,000 collected and raised for current and future Rattlers, it is safe to say the event was a complete success.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### DECEMBER

- 25 - Christmas Day
- 28 - Kwanzaa Event

### JANUARY 2020

- 1 - Happy New Year!
- 18 - Chapter Meeting /  
New Officer Installation
- 20 - Dr. Martin Luther King  
Jr. Day

### FEBRUARY

- 2 - Super Bowl Sunday
- 6 - FAMU Day at the Capitol
- 15 - Chapter Meeting
- 28-Mar 1 - Florida Region Mtg

### MARCH

- 7 - Be Out Day Miami
- 14-15 - Jazz in the Gardens
- 21 - Chapter Meeting
- 23-27 - MDCPS Spring Break

## FALLEN RATTLERS



Vice President Alandria M. Davis  
April 14, 1976 - November 2, 2019



Mr. Garth C. Reeves Sr.  
February 12, 1919 - November 25, 2019

## MIAMI-DADE CHAPTER ELECTIONS

The elections for the Miami-Dade Chapter of the Florida A&M University National Alumni Association took place on October 19, 2019 and some new faces will join the executive board! Outgoing Chapter President Denetra Collins, has been at the helm for the past six years, previously serving as chapter Vice President. She will be passing the torch to Masekela Mandela II, the current Publicity Director. The President position was the only contested office this year – all others were unopposed. Corresponding Secretary Miranda Albury will be stepping up after outgoing VP Alandria Davis who transitioned on November 2, 2019, also after serving for six years in the role. Tracey Jackson and Tricia Walton were re-elected for the Recording Secretary and Financial Secretary slots respectively, while Velvatia Wanton will be the new Corresponding Secretary. Nicketris Mandela will succeed Vanessa Byers as Treasurer and Tiffany K. Bain will take on the Parliamentarian role currently held by Ron Butler. All roles carry a term of two years, per the bylaws, and the next chapter elections are set to take place in October 2021.

## SAVE THE DATE!

**February 28-March 1, 2020 – Florida Region Meeting**  
Lexington Hotel & Conference Center  
1515 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32207

For more information, contact  
Floyd Hill - Florida Region Member-At-Large  
call 941-812-1004 or email [FloridaMAL@famunaa.org](mailto:FloridaMAL@famunaa.org)

**June 4-6, 2020 - FAMU NAA National Convention**  
Tallahassee, FL  
More information to come.

***Thy Noble Shrine*** A quarterly newsletter compiled by chapter members, for chapter members.

Chapter President: Denetra Collins; Publicity Director: Masekela Mandela; Additional Content: Tracey Jackson, Jason Moody

## FAMU NAA NATIONAL CONVENTION BRINGS AWARDS AND ACCOLADES TO MIAMI-DADE CHAPTER

TRACEY JACKSON - Florida A&M University National Alumni Association members from around the country convened in Birmingham, Alabama for their yearly convention on May 17-19, 2019. Representatives from more than 50 chapters nationwide met and fellowshiped amidst a backdrop of civil rights landmarks. The association meticulously planned fundraising and programming goals



for alumni and students for the 2020 association year and honored a few of South Florida's best and brightest public servants.

The highest honor for FAMU Alumni by the association, "Distinguished Alumni

Award" was awarded to Mayor Oliver Gilbert of Miami Gardens and Judge Rodney Smith. Both are members of the Miami Dade chapter of the FAMU NAA. Mayor Gilbert is credited for bringing back the historic "Orange Blossom Classic" to South Florida. Not to be confused with the Florida Classic played in Orlando every November, the OBC was a famous football event played by FAMU in Miami during the late 1940's through the late 1970's. The event will take place in Miami Gardens at the Hard Rock Stadium during Labor Day Weekend September 2020. Judge Rodney Smith, a judge for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida is being honored for his tireless judiciary work in Dade County. At that time, he was nominated to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida. He has now been installed into this new position. He is one of the few HBCU alumni judges in the nation to have this honor.

Those awards were just the tip of the iceberg for Miami-Dade FAMUANS. Denetra Collins, the current sitting president of the chapter won "Chapter President of the Year". The final award, "Chapter of the Year" went to the membership of the Miami-Dade Chapter for their continued efforts in recruiting, assisting Miami-Dade County high school students with preparing to attend FAMU as well as being a local extension of the university. The county currently has a large number of high school seniors entering FAMU in the fall.

