



WELCOME PACKET

2023

The National Alumnae Association of Spelman College (NAASC) Inc. is the official 501(c)(3) organization that supports Spelman College, a historically black college for women, through financial gifts, student recruitment, sisterhood, community service, and recognition of Spelman women. The Association provides, encourages, and promotes growth and development of alumnae through leadership opportunities and partnership alliances. The NAASC actively seeks to involve all former students and graduates in the fulfillment of its purpose.

Governing documents of the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC and the NAASC are available at www.naasc-chicago.org/governing-documents

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Welcome

Whether it is your first time in the Chi or you are a Chicago native, we welcome you to the historical Chicago Chapter of the NAASC!

As we begin this new fiscal year we want to take a look back on some of the great work our chapter has done during the COVID-19 pandemic:

1. Deepened our bond of sisterhood with current Spelman students
2. Grew our social media presence to help increase virtual engagement
3. Continued to commit and do the important work for which our organization was found

Our chapter is steeped in history, a history you can learn more about within this document. As we celebrate and honor our age-old chapter traditions we see the need to reimagine our chapter together with new programming, events, networking opportunities, and more.

We extend an invitation to all Spelman alumnae in the Chicagoland area to engage with and officially join the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC as a financial member (to learn how to do so, see page 7).

Together, we can continue to deepen our bond of sisterhood and remain undaunted in these times.

Sisterly,

2022- 2024 Executive Board
Chicago Chapter of the NAASC

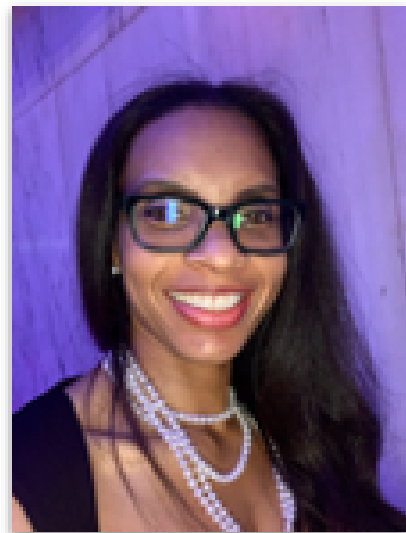
Meet the Executive Board



Adrienna Edwards, C'1997
President



Ariel Dotts, C'2014
Treasurer



Rochelle Bryant, C'1995
Financial Secretary



Mariah Wolfe, C'2022
Corresponding Secretary



Kimberly Johnson, C'1999
Recording Secretary



Kenya Jones, C'1992
Legal Advisor

Membership Benefits

The purpose of the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC is to unite and promote fellowship among Spelman alumnae in the Chicagoland area, stimulate interest among young women to attend Spelman College, encourage individual financial support of Spelman College, and to provide scholarship support to young women attending Spelman College from the Chicagoland area.

Membership in the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC allows us to keep the organization alive to carry out our mission. Additionally, financial national and local members have exclusive benefits such as:

- 10% Spelman College campus store discount
- Hotel and auto rental discounts
- Discounted admission to select Chicago Chapter of the NAASC events
- Eligibility to vote in NAASC elections
- Eligibility to vote in the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC elections
- Eligibility to vote in the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC matters
- Exclusive alumnae giveaways
- Leadership opportunities within the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC
- Formal recognition in the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC correspondence

Annual dues can be paid throughout the fiscal year that starts July 1st of the year and ends June 30th of the next year. National

dues must be paid in advance of, or in conjunction with, the local dues in order to be a financial member of the NAASC and the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC. National dues can be paid directly to the NAASC at <https://www.naasc.org/signup#join> or to the Chicago Chapter. Membership levels depend on the Spelman alumna's graduation year.

Dues Structure

MEMBERSHIP	LOCAL	NATIONAL
New Graduate (C'2023)	Gratis	Gratis
Recent Graduate (C'2021-C'2022)	\$25	\$25
Recent Graduate (C'2019-C'2020)	\$50	\$25
Regular Member	\$50	\$50
Subscribing Lifetime Member	\$50	\$200 (5 installments)
Lifetime Member (Paid in Full)	\$50	\$1,000 (One-time Payment)

Payment Options

venmo @NAASC-ChicagoChapter

zelle NAASCchicago@gmail.com

Cash App \$SpelChi


UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®
 Check Payable to
 "NAASC Chicago Chapter"
 P.O. Box 6729
 Chicago, IL 60680

Brief History of the Chicago Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College

The Chicago Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College, formerly called the Chicago Spelman Club, was established around the late 1930's.

In 1951, Minnie Felton Jackson, C '38 moved to Chicago with her husband and joined the Chicago Spelman Club. Mrs. Jackson was known as "Ms. Spelman" because of her extensive knowledge of Spelman College. Minnie served 3 terms as president of the Chicago Spelman Club. For many alumnae, Mrs. Jackson was their personal liaison to the College for information and updates. Mrs. Jackson was adamant about encouraging alumnae to become involved in the Chicago Spelman Club, regardless of age. Mrs. Jackson was relentless in maintaining constant communication with recent graduates until they became active in the local organization. Because of her tenacity regarding alumnae's commitment to Spelman and the Chicago Spelman Club, the Chapter has long been recognized for its strong intergenerational membership.

Regional Conferences

The Chicago Chapter has always supported the Region and has had numerous members who served as Regional Coordinators.

Regional Coordinators were:

- Robin Burton Leverette

- Barbara Edwards, C'69
- Daphne Smith, C'88
- Melissa Akinlawon, C'2011
- Ariel Dotts, PhD, C'2014 - (Interim)

The Chicago Chapter has hosted the Regional Conference in 1983, 1994, and 2011; and the mini conference in 1996. In July of 2022, the Chapter was the host city for the True Blue Sister Summit, the first ever combined regional conference of the NAASC.

Traditions of the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC

Chicago Chapter members have traditionally supported and actively engaged in the annual celebration of Founders Day, Christmas gatherings, fundraising for scholarships, local recruitment efforts, recognition of graduates and incoming freshmen of Spelman College, sponsoring the Glee Club and later the Jazz Ensemble, supporting the Regional Conferences as well as providing representation to the Chicago Inter-Alumni Council and supporting events sponsored by UNCF.

Founders Day

Each year, the Chicago Chapter honors Spelman's Founders Day with a local celebration as well as a monetary gift to the College. The Founders Day celebration traditionally includes a luncheon, awards, and recognition of Golden Girls and Diamond Daughters. The Chapter has used various venues to celebrate Founders Day. One year the celebration was held in the famous Walnut Room in the historical Marshall Field's Department Store where Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole was the speaker.

In 1993, the Chapter began presenting the Spelman Spirit Golden Service Award at the Founders Day celebration to an alumna whose leadership and unselfish service to the community brought recognition, honor, and acclaim to the Chapter and to the College. The first recipient was Dr. Effie O'Neal Ellis. After 1999, the Chapter presented the Golden Girls with the Fannie

Dukes Bryant Certificate, named after one of the Chapter's faithful members.

Fundraising/Christmas Events

In the past, the Chapter provided funds for current students in need of financial assistance through contributions from Chapter members and by selling chicken and chitterling dinners. In 1973, the Chapter established a scholarship fund. Fundraising for the newly established scholarship fund consisted of various activities (e.g. theater parties, Las Vegas Nights, and Night at the Races). In October of 1974, the Chapter voted to have an annual fundraiser event and a scholarship committee was formed. This annual fundraiser became a Christmas event.

In early years, the Christmas event consisted of a potluck dinner at one of the member's homes. Later, Christmas events were celebrated at restaurants or banquet halls and was a time to socialize with friends and family. Members provided Christmas gifts to the guests, which were placed under a Christmas tree. During the 1980's, the Christmas event became the major fundraiser for scholarships. The event was branded as Spelman's Annual Christmas Scholarship Luncheon.

In September of 2000, Chicagoland Morehouse and Spelman alumni came together to sponsor a combined fundraiser. Each alumni chose a distinguished alumna/alumni from each college. Spelman alumnae chose Dr. Jane E. Smith, when she was President and CEO of the National Council of Negro Women, and

Morehouse alumni chose Dr. David Satcher, Surgeon General of the United States. This combined venture, The Chicago Area Morehouse/Spelman Alumni Gala, was a profitable fundraising event for both chapters.

In 2008, A Crystal Blue Evening was designated as the name for the Christmas fundraiser where, in addition to an elegant after-five dinner experience, two alumnae would be honored with the Minnie Felton Jackson Award and the Blue Diamond Woman of Excellence Award. In 2016, the Chapter introduced the Heritage Award, given to an individual(s) or organization(s) that provided consistent support to the local chapter as well as the College. The first recipients were Dr. Donald and Mrs. Isabel Carter Stewart. Smaller fundraising events and donation campaigns have been held to provide seeding funds for A Crystal Blue Evening.

Scholarships of the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC

Fundraisers and local support of the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC support two major scholarships:

The Georgia Dwelle Scholarship

This scholarship is named for Dr. Georgia Dwelle, C 'oo who was the first Spelman alumna to receive her Doctor of Medicine degree. This scholarship is administered by Spelman College. Recipients of the scholarship must be sophomores from the Chicagoland area and have at least a 2.0 GPA.

The Lois Davenport Fambro Scholarship

This scholarship was started in the late 1990's to honor Lois Fambro, a 1930 graduate who was a long-time leader of the Chicago Spelman Club. This scholarship is designed to provide direct financial assistance to Spelman students in need from the Chicagoland area and is administered and distributed by the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC.

Committee Overview

To continue the work of the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC, we invite all Spelman alumnae to share any ideas they have by joining chapter meetings. All active and financial members are eligible to join and/or lead a committee!

STANDING COMMITTEES

By-Laws	Reviews revision requests and presents amendments for action to members
Communications	Promotes effective communication within the Chapter, from the College, and with partnering organizations
Courtesy	Ensures Chapter members receive acknowledgement for major life events
Finance*	Responsible for making financial recommendations for the Chapter; limited membership to committee
Fundraising	Organizes and conducts events intended to generate scholarship funds for the Chapter
Membership*	Develops strategies for recruiting Spelman alumnae in the Chicagoland area
Nominating	Responsible for coordinating all processes and forms necessary for the biennial election of officers
Programming	Responsible for the implementation of the approved national service programs for the

Chapter and initiates community outreach projects for the Chapter to participate in

Scholarship

Takes requests from current Spelman students in need of financial assistance

* Committee Chair(s) must be an elected officer as stated by the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC By-Laws

AD-HOC COMMITTEES

A Crystal Blue Evening Coordinates all arrangements for the biennial fundraiser gala A Crystal Blue Evening, held on even years.

Founders Day

Coordinates all arrangements for the Founders Day Celebration honoring Spelman College's Founders. An alumna who best represents the spirit of the College's Founders shall be presented with the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC Spirit Award. This annual event shall be held in April.

Outreach

Coordinates activities or events for current students on behalf of the Chapter. Additionally, this committee will make all arrangements for the annual "Honors Luncheon" event to recognize the incoming class and honor the graduates on behalf of the Chapter. This annual event shall be held in June or July.

Recruitment

Attends and coordinates all invitations to college fairs in the Chicagoland area as requested by the college. All committee members must be STAR trained.

SpelHouse Initiatives Organizes and conducts events in conjunction with the Chicago Morehouse Alumni Association on behalf of the Chapter

UNCF/HBCU Liaison Serves as a liaison for the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC at the local Inter-Alumni Council that is a UNCF sponsored organization of concerned graduates, current students, and individuals who want to advance the cause of black higher education.

How to Get Involved

Now that you know more about the Chicago Chapter of the NAASC, we welcome you to become an active member of the Chapter. The Chicago Chapter of the NAASC meets every second Saturday of the month for its General Body Meeting. If you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas for the Chapter please email us at NAASCchicago@gmail.com.

Stay connected with us by following us on [FaceBook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#)! To stay up to date on Chapter events, please sign up for our [email](#) list.