

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority INCORPORATED

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Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. North Atlantic Region welcomes award-winning journalist Yamiche Alcindor to its annual conference virtual meeting

(Philadelphia, Pa. - March 4, 2021) – Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated's North Atlantic Region will gather—virtually this year, due to the ongoing pandemic—for their 90th North Atlantic Regional Conference from the host city of Philadelphia, Pa. The organization will kick off the festivities with its public meeting on Thursday, March 4, at 7 p.m., showcasing its program goals and initiatives. Community leaders from several areas including other Divine Nine member organizations, corporate executives, educators, and the non-profit sector will join the organization in this signature event. In honor of the organization's service and dedication to the community, the Philadelphia City Council passed a resolution naming March 4 as "**AKA Day**" in Philadelphia.

This year, the North Atlantic Region is pleased to present one of their own, journalist **Yamiche Alcindor**. Alcindor is the White House correspondent for PBS Newshour, as well as a political contributor for NBC and MSNBC. In recognition of her work, Alcindor has been awarded the White House Correspondents' Association Aldo Beckman Award for Overall Excellence in White House Coverage, and the 2020 Journalist of the Year Award from the National Association of Black Journalists. Ms. Alcindor will deliver a keynote address to this year's meeting attendees. In addition to Ms. Alcindor, the North Atlantic Region will be joined by **Kathy Sledge from Grammy award-nominated group Sister Sledge**.

As part of its annual awards program, the organization will award its annual J. Marjory Jackson Scholarship Award—named in honor of the member who was an accomplished musician, composer and arts educator who wrote the sorority's national hymn—to **Spirit Priester** of Jamaica, N.Y. Ms. Priester is a senior at LaGuardia Performing Arts High School and plans to further her education in dance. Additionally, the North Atlantic Region is pleased to honor outstanding community members for their service. Honorees include:

- **Community Service Award – Mary Gladys Jones, lifelong educator and youth mentor**
- **Educational Excellence Award – Aaron A. Walton, president of Cheyney University**
- **Leadership Award – Dr. Ala Stanford, founder of the Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium**

“I am honored that our sorority sister and well-respected journalist Yamiche Alcindor will join us for this signature event for our organization, especially given the current political turmoil.” said Mary Bentley LaMar, Regional Director of the North Atlantic Region. “And, it is my great pleasure to recognize our honorees who inspire us as examples of how we can work for the continued improvement and empowerment of our communities,” she added.

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About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated:

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) is an international service organization that was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1908. It is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African-American college-educated women. Alpha Kappa Alpha is comprised of nearly 300,000 members in more than 1,000 graduate and undergraduate chapters in the United States, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Liberia, Bahamas, Bermuda, the Caribbean, Canada, Japan, Germany, South Korea, South Africa, and in the Middle East. Led by International President Dr. Glenda B. Glover, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, is often hailed as “America’s premier Greek-letter organization for African American women.” For more information on Alpha Kappa Alpha and its programs, visit www.aka1908.com

The North Atlantic region led by Regional Director Mary Bentley LaMar is the birthplace of Alpha Kappa Alpha and home to 147 graduate and undergraduate chapters in Massachusetts, Eastern New York, Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Connecticut, Maryland, DC, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. For more information on the North Atlantic Region visit www.aka1908.com/northatlantic.

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