



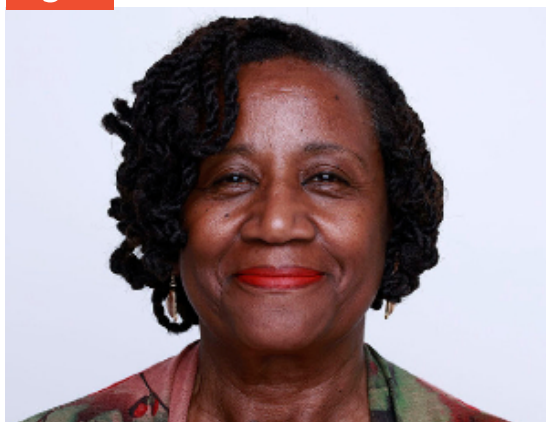
@njpacwomen



A Newsletter of Inspiration from Women@NJPAC

To bring all of us closer together, and to share more widely the remarkable work that the members of Women@NJPAC are doing in their communities, we've decided to start this newsletter that will offer you a snapshot of some projects our #sisterhoodforgood is undertaking. You'll find ways you can help—and inspiration for your own adventures!

light



It's easy, these days, to fall into despair. But I can't do that. I believe we have a job to do, one that's more important now than it ever was before.

In times such as these, perhaps we have been called to bring a marvelous light into a world experiencing darkness, by fully using the compassion and talents with which we have been blessed.

We must believe there is something bigger and more humane than what we are facing today. In this new newsletter, a virtual conversation among the unstoppable forces for good who make up Women@NJPAC, issue by issue, we will be sharing with you ideas, inspiration and undertakings that are true, noble, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy.

We want to focus on what strengthens our faith rather than what keeps us mired in our circumstances. If we—who are called—do answer, perhaps together we can make a world that never was.

Stay lifted,
Marcia Wilson Brown
President, Women@NJPAC

healing



Women@NJPAC board member Antoinette Ellis-Williams invites you to **A Breath of Fresh Air: Healing Through The Arts Series**. Co-hosted by the Zonta Club of Essex County, these three virtual events will refresh your spirit and raise awareness for domestic violence.

Event #1: Saturday, May 2 @ 2PM. Spoken word performance and

conversation with artists Kween Moore and Bimpe Fageyinbo.

Event #2: Saturday, May 9 @ 2PM. Interactive writing workshop for women and children led by Dr. Linda Epps & Jasmine Mans.

Event #3: Saturday, May 23 @ 2PM. Interactive visual arts demonstration to help, led by Danielle Scott, you express your voice using multimedia.

In addition to her hard work coordinating these events, Antoinette Ellis-Williams is teaching full-time (online!) at New Jersey City University. She's currently at home in Newark with her husband and two sons—one working from home, one finishing his senior year of college. They're staying connected by cooking, playing Scrabble® and attending virtual church.

tell me about fresh air

community



Thanks to all of you who joined us for the Gathering of Givers on March 6! It seems like a million years ago that we actually got to see each other in person. If you missed it, take a peek at this clip created by Yasmeen Fahmy, NJPAC's Associate Director of Digital Marketing.



connection



We want to stay connected to you, so put these dates on your calendar:

We have moved our [Spring Luncheon](#) from June 9 to Wednesday, December 2. As of now, our [Annual Spotlight Gala](#) is still on track for October 3, 2020.

events? i'm intrigued

determined

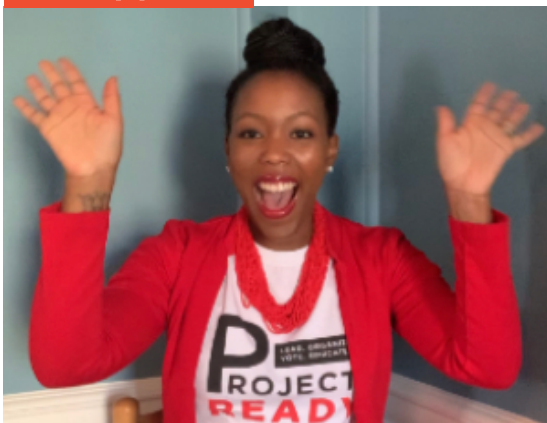


Three of our speakers from *A Gathering of Givers*— Andrea Jung, Laura Overdeck and Nina Mitchell Wells—have all joined the leadership board of the New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund. This organization is working hard to stop the spread, support the healthcare community, provide help for the vulnerable and rebuild our communities, with 100% of donations going directly to those

in need. The NJPRF is responsible for the [Jersey4Jersey benefit concert](#) that happened on April 22.

tell me about njprf

unstoppable



Shennell McCloud, executive director of [Project Ready NJ](#), gave a fantastic talk at our *Gathering of Givers* event about how voting is an act of self-care. In the midst of the pandemic, her organization is supporting Newark in two unique ways. First, addressing the “digital divide” by providing MiFi

hotspots to 138 students and families without internet access. And second, making sure residents have the information they need to vote by mail in the coming election.

McCloud is also busy taking care of her two- and three-year-old children at home in Newark. She and her husband alternate work and “teaching duties” in two-hour blocks, and McCloud is happy to report the kids are having a blast making volcanoes and slime.

tell me about project ready

nourishing



Karen Sacks of Women for Progress is currently spearheading an initiative called [Feed the Frontline](#). This all-volunteer group purchases meals from local restaurants and delivers to hospital workers and first responders in Bergen and Essex counties—including East Orange Hospital, where the

first ER doctor in the country died from coronavirus and their cafeteria has been shut down to protect food service workers.

In the midst of raising money, coordinating schedules and delivering meals, Sacks is continuing to service her legal clients from home, while her high school and college-age children are keeping busy in their virtual classrooms.

tell me about feed the frontline

strong



Nora Radest, Summit’s mayor and a longtime NJPAC supporter, is making a difference for small businesses with the [Sustain Summit Fund](#). Using GoFundMe, community members have already raised over \$250,000 to directly support the locally owned businesses that mean so much

to residents. People are also pitching in by making masks, raising money to feed hospital workers and shopping for the quarantined and elderly.

While fielding 300+ emails, phone calls, texts and Facebook messages each day, Radest is home with her husband and adult daughter. She welcomed a new grandson on March 12, and her son and his family are happy and healthy (and home).

tell me about sustain summit

fun



If you're bored at home, and there's nothing good on Netflix, take a virtual trip to NJPAC! With [NJPAC in Your Living Room](#), you can watch performances, conversations and educational kids' videos right from your couch.

entertain me

#sisterhoodforgood

We hope you've been energized by these women and their inspiring work. If you or someone you know is making a difference in any way, big or small, we want to hear about it! Use the hashtag #SisterhoodForGood on social media and tag Women@NJPAC. Or, reply to this email and share your story. We hope you are staying safe and well.

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