



## Impact Newsletter

### DEI Champion Spotlight

#### NAMMBA KNOXVILLE

In late 2021, the NAMMBA Knoxville Chapter emerged after persistent efforts to establish a presence in Knoxville's real estate finance landscape. Led by President Moneek Langston and a dedicated board, the chapter achieved remarkable milestones in its first year. They hosted three successful events this year and won the "NAMMBA Rookie of the Year Award" at the September NAMMBA Connect Conference. Looking ahead, the chapter plans to continue its impactful work, starting with the "Building Bridges, Not Walls in the Housing Industry" event in 2024, promoting transparent communication and collaboration in the industry.

The Knoxville Chapter's mission centers on creating a culture of leadership, collaboration, and equitable policies. They provide a networking and learning platform for various industry experts, from realtors to insurance professionals, emphasizing inclusivity beyond the mortgage network. Their commitment to diversity and inclusion extends to advocating for sustainable homeownership and offering training, education, and financial literacy support for women, minorities, and aspiring professionals. ***This past September, at the annual NAMMBA National Conference, Knoxville was awarded Rookie Chapter of the year for their rise to market leadership in such a short timeframe.***



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# Mortgage Professional Under 35?

**JOIN MPACT TODAY!**

mPact is MBA's network for young professionals in the real estate finance industry. Participants join a community of your peers, share their experiences with others online, network with industry insiders, hone their skills or have a voice in the future of real estate finance. This is your opportunity to make your mark, and move our industry forward.



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## Celebrating The Power of Alliance

**BY KACIE LYNCH, FUTURE LEADERS STUDENT**



Attending the LGBTQ+ Real Estate Alliance Conference in Houston, TX was an unforgettable experience. It was a unique blend of networking and enjoyable moments that left a lasting impact. With U.S. Bank's sponsorship, the event was off to a great start, and it was an honor to have their support.

The educational speakers at the conference were truly phenomenal, providing valuable insights and information that will undoubtedly benefit the community. The presence of the mayor of Houston, who took the time to meet us and show support for our cause, was a significant highlight. It reinforced the importance of the "Stop Hate in Real Estate" movement, which promises to be a game-changer in addressing discrimination during the homebuying process for LGBTQ+ individuals.

What made this experience even more remarkable was the inclusive and welcoming atmosphere. Attendees from diverse backgrounds were embraced with open arms, creating a sense of acceptance, love, and empowerment. The conference left me invigorated, knowing that positive change is on the horizon, and that we are part of a movement that will make a real difference in the lives of the LGBTQ+ community when it comes to real estate.

# Belonging

## THE KEY INGREDIENT FOR OUR DEI INITIATIVES



Belonging, within the context of diversity, equity, and inclusion, is the profound sense of acceptance, validation, and value that individuals experience within a group or organization, regardless of their background, identity, or characteristics. Fostering a culture of belonging involves creating an environment where every person feels respected, heard, and able to authentically express themselves without fear of discrimination or exclusion. This not only enhances overall morale and productivity, but also cultivates a sense of community and mutual support, ultimately leading to a more equitable and inclusive society.

--Tiffany Searcy Wright, CMB, AMP

## MBA President Speaks Out

### BROEKSMIT MAKES A DECLARATION TO SUPPORT HOMEBUYER EQUITY

MBA President and CEO Bob Broeksmit, CMB, testified in September at a hearing entitled, "Implementing Basel III: What's the Fed's Endgame?" before the U.S. House Financial Services Committee (Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Monetary Policy).

Basel III is the third Basel Accord, a framework that sets international standards for bank capital adequacy, stress testing, and liquidity requirements. Augmenting and superseding parts of the Basel II standards, it was developed in response to the deficiencies in financial regulation revealed by the financial crisis of 2007–08.

In his testimony, Broeksmit says in part "Given ongoing affordable housing challenges, regulators should be taking steps that encourage banks to better support real estate finance markets. This proposal does precisely the opposite during a time of near record-low single-family delinquencies and pristine underwriting."



[READ FULL STATEMENT](#)



## Congratulations Karley!

### KARLEY BOND, CMB, AMP WINS WILLIS BRYANT AWARD

MBA Education, the award-winning education division of the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA), honored TNMBA Taskforce's Karley Bond, CMB, AMP, with its 2023 Willis Bryant Award here during the 2023 MBA Annual Convention and Expo. The Willis Bryant Award recognizes outstanding academic achievement in the three courses of MBA Education's School of Mortgage Banking (SOMB) and is awarded annually to a top student graduate of SOMB III. To qualify, a student must achieve a grade of "excellent" on all SOMB exams and demonstrate exceptional leadership qualities in both the classroom and when interacting with other students.

# Elevating the Industry

## NAHREP L'ATITUDE CONFERENCE RECAP



NAHREP Nashville and NMBA members proudly represented at NAHREP at L'atitudo – a four-day conference in Miami, FL. It was a remarkable gathering of like-minded individuals and visionaries. This event was more than just a conference; it was a transformative movement that placed a robust emphasis on equipping professionals with the finest tools to navigate the thriving Latino real estate and mortgage industry, fostering the creation of generational wealth.

Some highlights of the conference included keynotes and breakout sessions from actors, entertainers, entrepreneurs and top real estate and mortgage industry experts. Some notables included, Gloria Esteban, Fat Joe, John Leguizano, Oscar De la Hoya and Shark Tank's Barbara Cochran. These speakers did not disappoint, delivering a wealth of invaluable insights to captivated audiences. Common themes: Defying the odds in a challenging market will require preparation, perfecting your craft, and being intentional with the relationships you create.

NAHREP at L'atitudo 2024 is slated for September 12-15, in San Diego, CA. Join us for a transformative experience, where knowledge, connections, and opportunities converge to shape the future of the real estate and mortgage industry!

--Toumie Parrot, AMP

## CONVERGENCE Has New Leadership

### HOUSING INITIATIVE APPOINTS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CONVERGENCE Memphis Inc. named Doreen Graves Executive Director, responsible for leading efforts to strengthen ties within the local Memphis community to promote affordable housing and increase Black homeownership. She joined CONVERGENCE Memphis Inc. in April 2023. In her time with CONVERGENCE Memphis Inc., Doreen has continued to build upon existing relationships, partner resources, community outreach and engaged new partners.

Graves most recently served as the West Tennessee Liaison for the Tennessee Housing Development Agency and was responsible for promoting production and rehabilitation of homes in 26 counties as part of the organization's industry and government affairs team. She also has 20 years of executive experience in the broadcast media industry.



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-- Submitted by Jen Green, CMB, AMP

# 2023 MBA National Conference

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTEND STAR-STUDED EVENT

Several DEI committee members attended the 2023 MBA National Conference in Philadelphia in October creating a vibrant and impactful experience. During the 50th Anniversary Certified Mortgage Banker, CMB meeting, Ella Harris presented DEI Initiatives, developed in collaboration with Tiffany Searcy Wright, including T-shirt sales to fundraise for the MBA DEI Scholarship fund. Aimee MacIveen and Karley Bond were celebrated as new CMB's, receiving cheers from TNMBA members. The diverse lineup of speakers, including MBA CEO Bob Broeksmit, FHFA Director Sandra Thompson, CFPB Director, Rohit Chopra, and Asst. Sec. for HUD, Julia Gordon and singer-author, Tim McGraw, enriched the experience. Maroon 5 and Tim McGraw's concerts drew large crowds, adding a lively element. Committee members also attended the MBA Advocacy reception, aligning with TNMBA's mission statement, highlighting the industry's advocacy significance.

--Karley Bond, CMB, AMP



# TNMBA



IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

## East

KMBA members participate in Knoxville's annual Habitat for Humanity Blitz Day. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage.



## Middle

NMBA participated in the Greater Nashville Realtors Conference. Their concept, "Next in Mortgage," won an award for Best Booth Theme.



## East

NAMMBA's Gratitude & Growth Friendsgiving event was a resounding success.

## Are You The Next Scholarship Winner?

**DEI SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN IN JANUARY 2024**

Since 2020, TNMBA's DEI Scholarships have promoted equal access to educational opportunities for underrepresented groups in the real estate finance industry. These scholarships support individuals from diverse backgrounds by providing financial assistance to pursue industry designations such as AMP, CMB, CRU, RCMS, CMCP and other education and industry activities. By doing so, DEI scholarships contribute to creating a more inclusive and diverse academic environment, fostering representation, and opportunity for growth within our industry. Look for more information on how you can apply for the DEI Scholarship coming January 2024!



Previous winners include Tiffany Searcy Wright (2020, earned CMB and AMP designations), Aimee MacIlveen (2021, earned CMB and AMP designations), Jennifer Green (2022, earned CMB and AMP designation, graduate of MBA's Future Leaders Program), and Troy Smith (2023, currently enrolled in School of Mortgage Banking II pursuing AMP designation).

[LEARN MORE](#)

TNMBA's  
DIVERSITY,  
EQUITY &  
INCLUSION  
TASKFORCE



Work with us today

**HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT JOINING THE TASKFORCE?**

Learn how you can support the DEI Taskforce in future initiatives.

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