



# 2026 Opportunity & Impact in Nursing Summit

February 12-14, 2026  
JW Marriott, Washington, DC





The 2026 Opportunity & Impact in Nursing Summit, hosted by the American Nurses Enterprise (ANE), convenes nurse leaders, innovators, and industry partners to move from conversation to action.

Over two and a half days, we will engage in meaningful dialogue, examine real-world examples, and identify measurable strategies that strengthen and sustain the nursing workforce. This Summit is not a theoretical discussion. It is a working forum designed to accelerate progress, deepen collaboration, and drive lasting impact across education, practice, and leadership.

# Agenda

## **Day 1 | 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

- Welcome, networking, plenary session, awards ceremony, and musical performance

## **Day 2 | 7:00 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.**

- Fireside chats, plenary sessions, dramatic readings with facilitated discussion, and book signing

## **Day 3 | 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

- Concurrent and plenary sessions, award presentation, and book signing

*\*Attendees may earn up to 11 ANCC contact hours through eligible sessions.*

**VIEW THE MOST UP-TO-DATE AGENDA**



Scan the QR code to access the live digital agenda, including real-time updates and session details.

# Schedule

## Thursday, February 12 • Day 1

Time	Session	Location	Presenters
4:00 p.m.	Registration	Grand Foyer, Registration Desk	
4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Networking	Grand Foyer	
4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Exhibitors, American Nurses Enterprise (ANE) Booth and Bookstore	Grand Foyer	
4:45 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.	Welcome & Host	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Marion Phillips, III, Senior VP for Community Development, U.S. News & World Report
4:55 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.	Remarks	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Dr. Katie Boston-Leary, Senior Vice President of Equity & Engagement, ANE  Dr. Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, President, American Nurses Association
5:15 p.m. – 5:55 p.m.	<b>Plenary</b> When the Road became the Delivery Room: A Maternal Health Impact Story	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Mercedes Wells, Black Maternal Health Advocate  Dr. Lucinda Canty, Certified Nurse-Midwife; Executive Director of Lucinda's House; Associate Professor, UMass Amherst  Dr. Ann Kurth, President, New York Academy of Medicine
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	<b>Awards Ceremony</b>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Hosted by Marion Phillips, III  <b>American Nurses Foundation (ANF) Health Equity Awards</b> Kathy Driscoll, President, ANF  <b>Health Equity Practice Award</b>  Dr. Lydia Albuquerque <i>School of Nursing, William Paterson University</i>  <b>Honorable Mentions</b>  Akos Antwi <i>Revive Therapeutic Services</i>  Ibelise Smith <i>ChristianaCare Health System</i>  <b>Health Equity Research Award</b>  Dr. Bridgette M. Rice <i>Villanova University Fitzpatrick College of Nursing</i>  <b>Honorable Mentions</b>  Dr. Maxim Topaz <i>Columbia University School of Nursing</i>  Dr. Sarah H. Ailey <i>Rush University College of Nursing</i>

Time	Session	Location	Presenters
			<p><b>Health Equity Educator Award</b>  Dr. Suha Ballout  <i>University of Washington School of Nursing</i></p> <p><i>Honorable Mentions</i></p> <p>Dr. Anna Valdez  <i>Sonoma State University</i></p> <p>Dr. Cheryl Woods Giscombe  <i>UNC-Chapel Hill School of Nursing</i></p>
			<p><b>Health Equity Leader Award</b>  Dr. Camille Burnett  <i>Institute for Healthcare Improvement</i></p> <p><i>Honorable Mentions</i></p> <p>Dr. Paula Alexander-Delpech  <i>Frontier Nursing University</i></p> <p>Dr. Marlon Garzo Saria  <i>Providence Saint John's Health Center</i></p>
			<p><b>Health Equity Rising Star Award</b>  Dr. Ana Diallo  <i>Virginia Commonwealth University School of Nursing</i></p> <p><i>Honorable Mentions</i></p> <p>Dr. Faith Elise Metlock  <i>Johns Hopkins School of Nursing</i></p> <p>Dr. Sabrina Jamal-Eddine  <i>University of Illinois Chicago</i></p>
7:00 p.m. – 7:50 p.m.	<b>Musical Performance &amp; Storytelling</b>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Tad Worku, Family Nurse Practitioner, Educator, Musician
7:50 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Angela Beddoe, CEO, ANE

## Friday, February 13 • Day 2 | Total of ANCC Contact Hours: 5.75

Time	Session	Location	Presenters
7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Registration	Grand Foyer Registration Desk	
7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.	Breakfast and Exhibitors	Capital Ballroom, Salon E-G	
7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	ANE Booths and Bookstore	Capital Foyer	
7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Welcome, Recap, and Land Acknowledgement	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Dr. Katie Boston-Leary, Senior Vice President of Equity & Engagement, ANE
8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.	Welcome	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Dr. Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, President, ANA

Time	Session	Location	Presenters
8:10 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.	<b>Opening Remarks &amp; Fireside Chat</b> From Absence to Access: Corenza Townsend and the Power of Community Investment	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Angela Beddoe, CEO, ANE  Corenza Townsend, Chief Academic Officer, Norton West Louisville Hospital, Louisville, Kentucky
9:10 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.	<b>Spotlight</b>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	<b>Health Equity Global Impact Award</b>  Agnes Nambozo, Nurse, Sironko Town, Uganda  Presented by Dr. Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, President, ANA
9:25 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	<b>Plenary</b> The Data on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Voter Reactions  <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 0.75</i>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Chrissie McHenry, Managing Principal, Raben Group
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Break		
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<b>Plenary</b> Policy Impact on Equity in Nursing  Advocacy for Nursing as a Professional Degree  <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 1.0</i>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Tim Nanof, Executive VP, Policy & Government Affairs, ANE  Dr. Brad Goettl, CNO, ANE  Dr. Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, President, ANA  Dr. John Yauger, CEO, American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AANA) Foundation
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<b>Plenary</b> Fireside Chat: NAACP White Paper on Health Equity in AI  <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 0.5</i>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Dr. Craig Watkins, Director, IC2 Institute and Ernest A. Sharpe Centennial Professor, University of Texas at Austin  Dr. Oriana Beaudet, VP Innovation, ANE
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Capital Ballroom, Salon E-G  Overflow seating in Grand Ballroom, Salon 1	
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Exhibitors	Capital Ballroom, Salon D	
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	<b>A REFUTATION: Live Dramatic Readings and Open Discussions Exploring Health Inequities Today and in 1793</b>  <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 2.0</i>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	<b>Presentation</b> Bryan Doerries, Artistic Director, Theater of War Productions  Arliss Howard ( <i>Full Metal Jacket, Moneyball, The Lost World: Jurassic Park</i> )  Eric Berryman ( <i>Atlanta, A Complete Unknown, Godfather of Harlem</i> )  Frankie Faison ( <i>The Wire, Coming to America, The Rookie</i> )

Time	Session	Location	Presenters
			<p><b>Panel Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Moderator</b> Dr. Margo Brooks Carthon, Director of the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania</p> <p><b>Panelists</b></p> <p>Dr. C. Alicia Georges, President of the National Black Nurses Foundation &amp; Professor and Chairperson Emerita, Nursing, Lehman College CUNY</p> <p>Dr. Ernest Grant, Clinical Associate Professor and Vice Dean for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, Duke University School of Nursing</p> <p>Dr. Beverly Malone, President and CEO, National League for Nursing</p> <p>Dr. Debra Toney, Executive Director, National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations (NCEMNA)</p> <p>Dr. Kenneth White, Dean and Professor Emeritus, MGH, Institute of Health Professions School of Nursing</p>
3:00 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.	Break		
3:20 p.m. – 4:05 p.m.	<p><b>Minority Fellowship Program Spotlight</b> Panel discussion</p> <p>Turning Workforce Investment into Impact: MFP/ANA and the Future of Behavioral Health Nursing</p> <p><i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 0.75</i></p>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	<p><b>Moderator</b> Dr. Nia Josiah, Assistant Professor, Family and Community Health Department, The University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing</p> <p><b>Panelists</b></p> <p>Dr. David C. Agor, PhD Candidate in Nursing and Implementation Science, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing and Perelman School of Medicine</p> <p>Dr. Ashley Davis, Founder &amp; CEO, Luna Women's Health; Nurse Practitioner, University of Maryland, Baltimore Research Initiative on Infectious Disease and Substance Use</p> <p>Fernando Mena-Carrasco, PhD Candidate and Clinical Instructor, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing</p> <p>Monique Swaby, Healthcare Analyst RN, Guidewell Healthcare</p>
4:05 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<p><b>Accelerating Impact in an Era of Backlash</b> A Fireside Chat with Author Lily Zheng</p> <p><i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 0.75</i></p>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Lily Zheng, Author, <i>Fixing Fairness</i> Dr. Katie Boston-Leary, Senior Vice President of Equity & Engagement, ANE
5:00 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.	<b>Heart to Heart:</b> Reflections and Resilience Moment	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Dr. Kenya Beard, President, K Beard & Associates LLC
5:50 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Dr. G. Rumay Alexander, Senior Equity Advisor, ANE
6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.	<b>Book signing</b>	Capital Foyer	Lily Zheng, Author, <i>Fixing Fairness</i>

**Saturday, February 14 • Day 3 | Total of ANCC Contact Hours: 5.25**

Time	Session	Location	Presenters	
7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Registration	Grand Foyer Registration Desk		
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast  Sunrise Sessions (concurrent)	Capital Ballroom, Salon E-G	<p>Creating Impact Through Conversation: Constructive Dialogue for Fairness in Nursing Education and Practice <i>Dr. Colleen Marzilli</i></p> <p>Empowering Nurse Leaders Through Publication: Evidence from a Hospital-Based Intervention <i>Dr. Deborah Brabham</i></p> <p>From Awareness to Action: Using Simulation to Address Structural Bias in Nursing Education <i>Dr. Marjorie Cooke</i></p> <p>From Needing to Leading: Activating Bedside Leadership to Strengthen the Nursing Workforce <i>Naomi Blakely</i></p> <p>Growing Our Own Nurses: A Hospital-Academic Partnership <i>Dr. Kaitlyn Tallio</i></p> <p>Nurses You Should Know: Reclaiming Inclusive Nursing History to Strengthen Workforce Development <i>Dr. Joanna Selzer &amp; Ravenne Aponte</i></p>	
8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.	Welcome and Remarks	Capital Ballroom, Salon E-G	Dr. Sarah Gray, Senior VP of Nursing Impact, ANA	
8:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	<b>Concurrent Session 1 (A-D)</b> <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 2.0</i>		<b>Concurrent Session 2 (E-H)</b> <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 2.0</i>	
8:40 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	<b>Room 1</b>  <b>Capital Ballroom, Salon E-G</b>	<p><b>Session 1A</b> Eliminating Barriers to Nursing Degrees: A Health System Approach to Grow its Nursing Workforce and Opportunities for its Employees <i>Dr. Kayla Banks</i></p>	<b>Room 2</b>  <b>Grand Ballroom, Salon I</b>	<p><b>Session 1E</b> Awareness to Action: Closing Care Gaps in Vascular Access <i>Dr. Stephanie Pitts</i></p>
9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.		<p><b>Session 1B</b> The Genesis of the Academy of Diversity Leaders in Nursing: Elevating Marginalized Voices in Health Policy and Nursing Leadership <i>Drs. Beard, Fields, Gilles</i></p>		<p><b>Session 1F</b> Expanding Neurology Access for Rural Veterans Through RN-Led TeleNeurology Headache Education Clinic <i>Dr. Jill A. Tobin</i></p>

Time	Session	Location	Presenters	
9:20 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.	<b>Room 1</b> <b>Capital Ballroom, Salon E-G</b>	<b>Session 1C</b> The Synergy of Disability Rights, Disability Justice, and Radical Accessibility in Nursing Education and Practice <i>Dr. Sabrina Jamal-Eddine</i>	<b>Room 2</b> <b>Grand Ballroom, Salon I</b>	<b>Session 1G</b> From Opportunity to Impact: PNAA's Evidence-Based Strategies for Expanding Leadership Representation Among Filipino American Nurses <i>Dr. Marlon Garzo Saria</i>
9:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.		<b>Session 1D</b> Creating Opportunity and Examining Impact: Workplace Discrimination, Retention, and Job Satisfaction Among DNPs of Color <i>Dr. McCamey, McMurray, Dr. Valdez</i>		<b>Session 1H</b> Strengthening Legal and Organizational Response Pathways for Healthcare Workers Experiencing Workplace Violence: A Collaborative Model Between Nurses and Commonwealth's Attorneys <i>Dr. Tiffany Covarrubias Lytle</i>
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Break			
10:15 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.	<b>Concurrent Session 1 (I-L)</b> <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 2.0</i>		<b>Concurrent Session 2: (M-P)</b> <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 2.0</i>	
10:15 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.	<b>Room 1</b> <b>Capital Ballroom, Salon E-G</b>	<b>Session 2I</b> Reimagining Early-Career Engagement: A Governance-Embedded Young Professionals Special Interest Group Model to Strengthen the Nursing Workforce <i>Agyei, Dr. Gerardi, Lodico</i>	<b>Room 2</b> <b>Grand Ballroom, Salon I</b>	<b>Session 2M</b> Breaking Barriers Through Policy: Fostering Collaboration and Opportunity to Impact Patient Outcomes <i>Dr. Khaliah Fisher-Grace</i>
10:35 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.		<b>Session 2J</b> A Harlem CRNA Renaissance: A Bridge to the Immersion Model for Diversifying Nurse Anesthesia <i>Dr. Wallena Gould</i>		<b>Session 2N</b> Advancing Equality for Internationally Educated nurses <i>Edna Cortez</i>
10:55 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.		<b>Session 2K</b> Building Equitable Leadership Pathways: Engaging, Educating, and Empowering Nurses of Indian Origin <i>Liffy Cherian</i>		<b>Session 2O</b> Taking Action: Restoring Health Databases and Resources for Underserved and Vulnerable Population <i>Dr. Justin Gill</i>
11:15 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.		<b>Session 2L</b> From Ideas to Impact: A Tiered Mentorship Model Expanding Equity, Scholarship, and Leadership in Nursing <i>Dr. Manu Thakral</i>		<b>Session 2P</b> Nurses and the Power of Grassroots Momentum to Advance Advocacy, Opportunity, and Impact Through Humanity, Ethics, Social Justice, and Science <i>Dr. Roman, Hill</i>
11:35 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.	Lunch and Exhibitors	Capital Ballroom, Salon E-G		

Time	Session	Location	Presenters
12:30 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.	<b>Presentation of ANF Health Equity Legacy Award</b>		Presented by ANE CEO Angela Beddoe to <b>Governor Wes Moore, Maryland</b>
12:50 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Plenary</b> Bias Interrupted: Creating Inclusion for Real and for Good  <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 0.75</i>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Joan C. Williams, Distinguished Professor (Emerita), UCSF Law; Founding Director, Equality Action Center; Author, Bias Interrupters
1:30 p.m. – 2:05 p.m.	Break and Exhibitors		
1:30 p.m. – 2:05 p.m.	<b>Book signing</b>	Capital Foyer	Joan C. Williams, Author, <i>Bias Interrupters</i>
2:05 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	<b>Plenary</b> From Barriers to Breakthroughs: Advocacy & Leadership with H.O.P.E. to Shape the Future of Nursing  <i>Eligible for ANCC contact hours, 0.5</i>	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Dr. Jennifer Moon, CNO, Assistant Surgeon General, Rear Admiral, United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps
2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks	Grand Ballroom, Salon II-IV	Jackie Hilton, Chief People & Culture Officer, ANE  Dr. Katie Boston-Leary, Senior Vice President of Equity & Engagement, ANA

### \*CNE Disclosures

Participants may earn **5.75 ANCC contact hours** by attending all eligible sessions on Friday, February 13, 2026, and completing the required evaluation.

Participants may earn **5.25 ANCC contact hours** by attending all eligible sessions on Saturday, February 14, 2026, and completing the required evaluation.

Evaluation must be completed by March 27, 2026. No partial credit will be awarded. The amount of ANCC Contact Hours listed is subject to change without notice. The American Nurses Association is accredited with distinction as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

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