



Fellow NSBE Member,

Greetings! The run-up to the National Society of Black Engineers' 50th Annual Convention (#NSBE50) has begun! Our 2024 Convention theme, "*Engineering CommUNITY*," is drawn from our Society's mission statement, and for the next nine months, each one of us — collegiate, Professional and pre-collegiate members alike — will play a vital role in transforming that phrase from buzz word to promise to real-world action.

CommUNITY

To "positively impact the community" is NSBE's purpose, our reason for being. The desire to make that *impact*, by affecting engineering equity to achieve social justice, is what motivated NSBE's founders to establish this organization more than 48 years ago: their contribution to the movement to empower Black people and Black communities across the country and abroad.

Regional Support

Making that *impact* through collective action, UNITY, has also been NSBE's main focus during the past two years and, especially, over the last three months, as the Society's leaders have moved STEM equity and social justice to the top rung of our priorities. NSBE's national leadership has acted in UNITY with the leadership and general membership of Region III, during the recent legal challenges to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in K–12 and postsecondary education in Florida and elsewhere in the United States.

It's Official: #NSBE50 in Orlando, FL!

The 2024 Convention Planning Committee is already months into its work for #NSBE50, which will be the beginning of a yearlong celebration of the Society's 50th year. And we are looking forward to educating, empowering and inspiring NSBE members, and other Convention attendees, with an unforgettable event featuring technology and career development workshops, speakers, technical and scientific competitions and a plethora of activities addressing social impact and DEI. As always, the Convention will be a life-changing experience for many, and your national and Region III NSBE leaders are excited about seeing you in person at what we hope will be the Society's largest-ever convening, at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, Feb. 28–March 3, 2024.

Advocate & Activate

Please accept our gratitude for your answers to the #NSBE50 survey, which provided much-needed guidance in our decisions. NSBE is fully engaged for the long term in the struggle for continued progress in diversity, equity and inclusion, and the recent letter from NSBE leaders to the Florida state legislators, attached, is only a start. Please read it for more information about NSBE's position in these matters.

NSBE, the challenges we face today will only make us stronger! Let's continue to *excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community* until we meet again as one family in Region III at #NSBE50. See you in Orlando!

Yours in the mission,

Avery Layne
2023–24 NSBE National Chairperson
National Society of Black Engineers

Jessica Oseghale
2023–24 NSBE National Secretary
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