

Black Alliance for Educational Options

SYMPOSIUM 2011

Documentation Report

March 3-5, 2011

Hyatt Regency Jersey City

Hotel on the Hudson

2 Exchange Place, Jersey City, NJ



Support BAEO



www.baeo.org

Thank You

Dear BAEO Members and Allies,

“Now is the Time,” was the theme for the Black Alliance for Educational Options’ (BAEO) Symposium 2011 held on March 3-5, in Jersey City, NJ.

BAEO and its allies in the New Jersey/New York region hosted more than 500 parental choice advocates—educators, clergy, elected officials, parents, and emerging leaders, including more than 300 First Timers.

Symposium continues to be our time to rededicate ourselves to our mission to increase access to high-quality educational options for Black children, by actively supporting parental choice policies and programs that empower low-income and working class Black families.

As usual, we maintained many of our Symposia traditions, including the annual First Timers Orientation, the Program Chair’s Welcome Lunch, the membership meeting, the Chair’s Dinner, visits to high performing public charter schools and general sessions that focused on several of BAEO’s priorities: mobilization and advocacy, academic strategies for closing the achievement gap and high performing Black-led charter schools.



Kenneth Campbell
President



Kevin P. Chavous
*Chair
Board of Directors*



Deborah M. McGriff
*Vice Chair,
Board of Directors
and Chair,
Program Planning
Committee*

Social networking and digital learning were two of this year’s new features. Digital natives and digital immigrants were invited to enroll at CEO Leadership Academy High School in Milwaukee, WI, and/or Friendship Tech Prep Middle School in Washington, DC, to experience anytime, anyplace digital learning using iPads with students and teachers. Participants tweeted and retweeted before, during and after the event and posted Facebook messages.

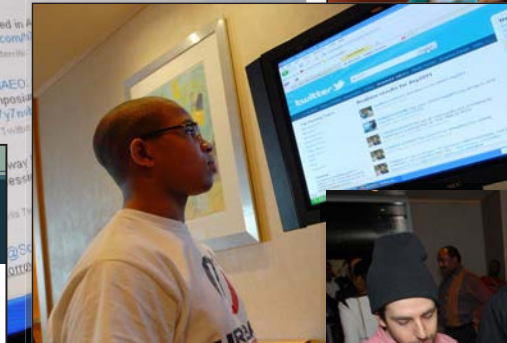
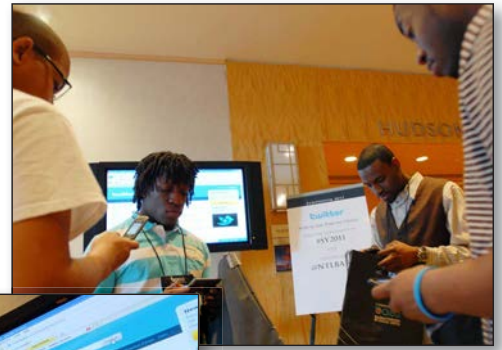
Our annual Symposium Documentation Report showcases the sessions, special features, and participant feedback. It is our hope that you enjoy this report as we continue moving forward to inform, inspire and empower low-income and working class Black families across this nation. Let us know what you think. Send your feedback to events@baeo.org.

Mark your calendars for Symposium 2012: March 1-3, 2012, in Washington, DC. See you in the nation’s capitol!

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Social Networking



SYMPOSIUM 2011

twitter

NOW IS THE TIME TO TWEET!

JOIN THE DISCUSSION AT

#SY2011

AND

FOLLOW US

@NTLBAEO

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

EDITORIAL TEAM

Jacqueline Cooper
Felice Green
Deborah McGriff

PHOTOGRAPHER

Marissa Weekes Mason

DESIGNER

DeVigal Design



ntlBAEO BAEO

Check out Chris Kazi Rolle's Ode to Harriett Ball during #SY2011 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYnqbO6sTNI>

13 Mar



husslington sammy hussle

WATCH - honoring foremother of #hiphoped RT @ntlBAEO: Check this video from #SY2011 feat @chriskazirolle Ode To Harriet [youtube.com/watch?v=WYnqbO6sTNI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYnqbO6sTNI)...

13 Mar



SoaringHigh2011 Walter Pritchard

#SY2011 Too many misconceptions about school choice from black people From WalterPritchard

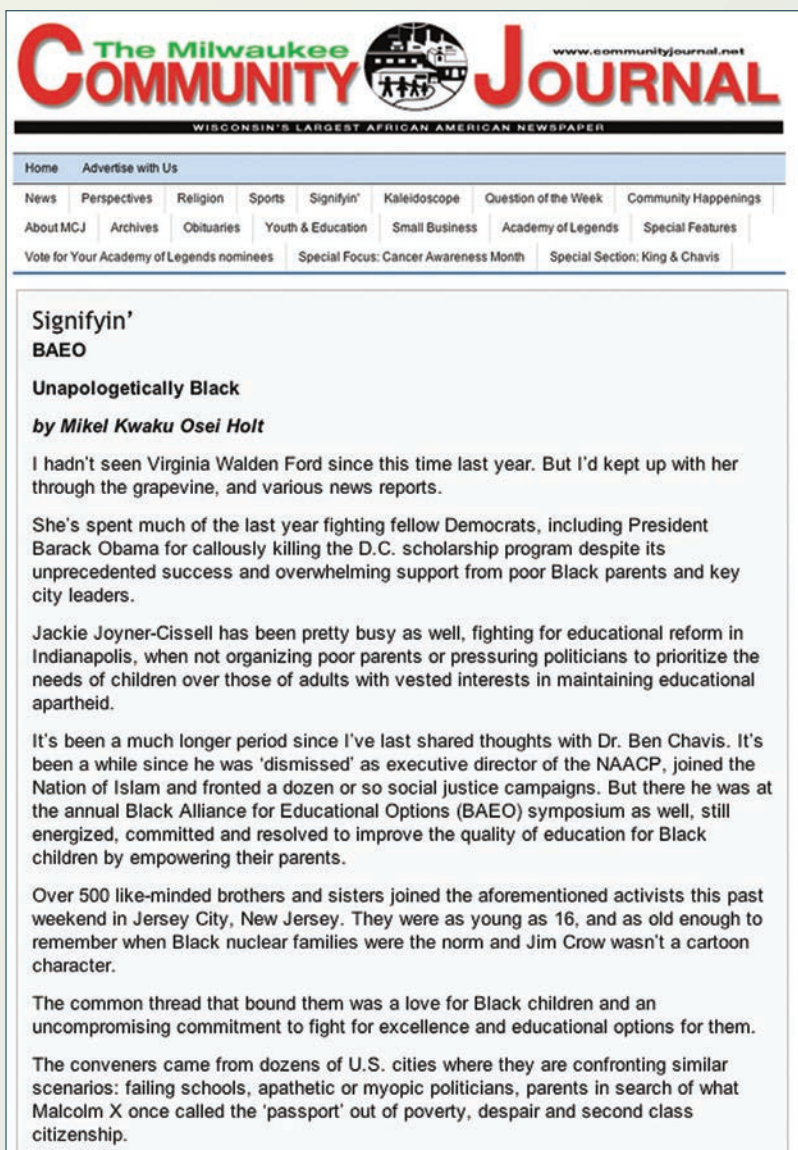
12 Mar



dmmcgriff Deborah M. McGriff

#SY2011 Now is the time to act! What actions are u taking?

12 Mar



Continue reading the article at <http://www.communityjournal.net/?p=11613>

The following is an excerpt from an email BAEO received following Symposium 2011.

I love BAEO and will fight till the end for the causes and cures we stand for. Howard was resounding and inspiring in a speech he gave in 2003 at the BAEO Symposium (in Dallas) he stated "This Battlefield is America!" - he said the battle for expanding and improving school choice for all cities in the USA is being fought... The battlefield he went on to say "is wherever there are low-income and working class black families who cry out for options to educate their babies/children better and are told that they have no right to choose by people who are choosing for their own babies every day... And in 2011, The Struggle Continues! Yes This Battlefield Is America - no matter who is in the white house - we must continue to believe and fight in our house... glory to GOD help us - let me stop!!! ...I am again energized to keep going and tell others to do the same. I ain't scurred - (bad English, good message.)

Parents Advancing Choice in Education

Daria Dillard Stone, Ohio BAEO Member

"I am full, fired up and ready to work!"

– Elected Official from Louisville, Kentucky

"The concurrent sessions and networking time were most beneficial to meet other professionals."

– School Superintendent, Mississippi

"I am leaving Symposium informed, empowered and inspired. I plan to bring my daughter next year!"

– Parent, Missouri

"I finally understand the meaning of parental choice and how parents can go back into their communities and advocate for change."

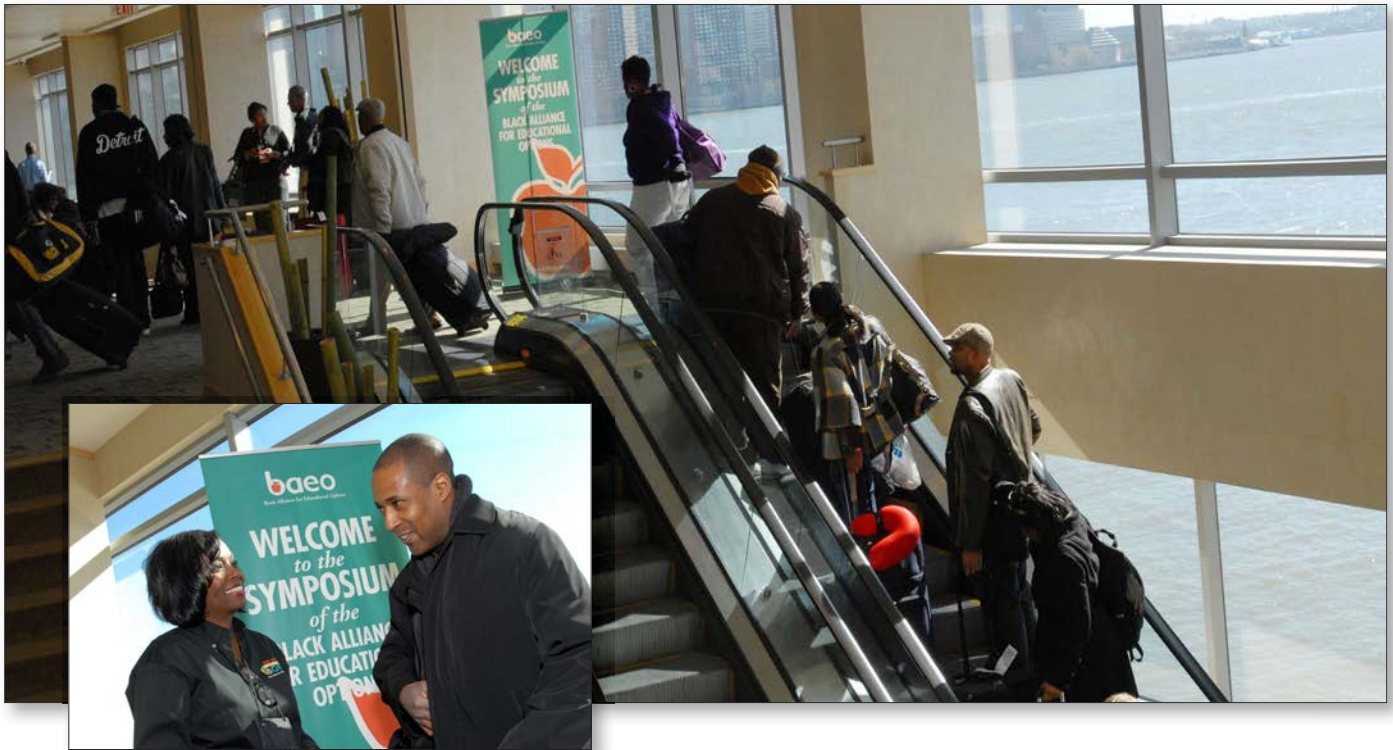
– Parent, Mississippi

"Much appreciated that the panelists' organizations were diverse: of different sizes, at different stages in their growth plan etc. Very insightful panel."

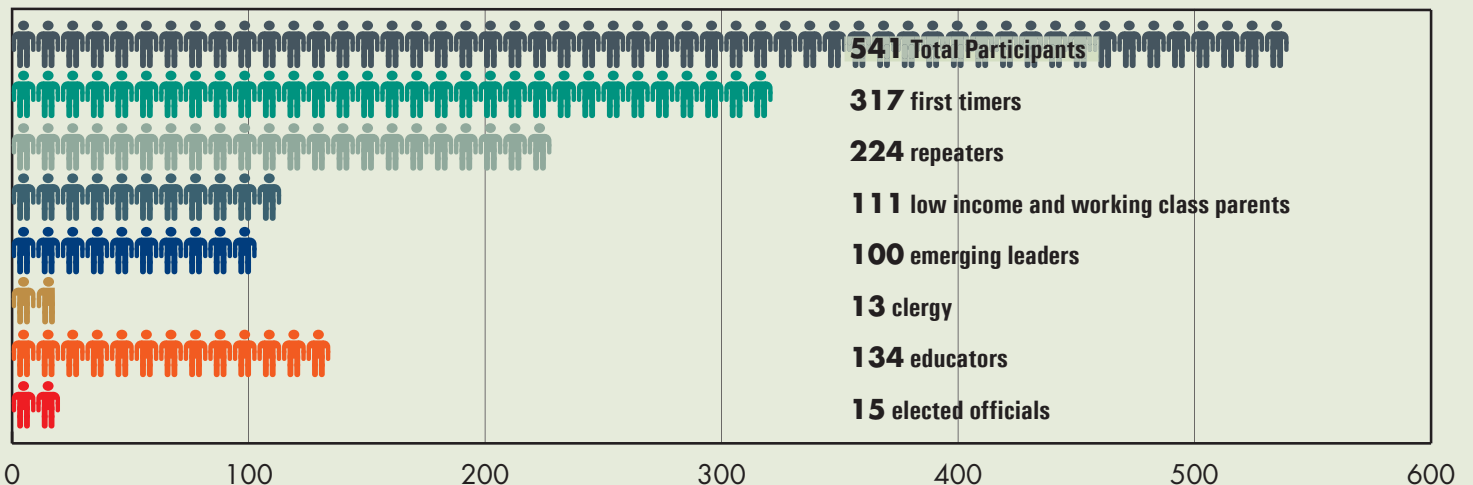
"There is nothing I would change about the Symposium. Everything from the meals to the sessions to registration was seamless. I have never attended such a well organized and informative conference."

– Educator, Indiana

“Now is the Time”



Participants' Profile



317 First Timers Start BAEO Symposium's Second Decade



"This was my first Symposium and I am glad I was invited. I am ready to go back home and empower my community." – Parent, Milwaukee

"Symposium was much more than I expected. It was good to be in the company of so many like-minded souls." – Elected Official, Ohio

"I attended Symposium not knowing what to expect. I was so uplifted and empowered at the First Timers' session that I could not wait for the rest of the event to start!" – Educator, Florida

"This is my first time attending a BAEO event. I think it is great and very educational for teachers and parents. Hope to attend many more in the future."



Rochelle Hendricks Welcomes BAEO to NY/NJ



100 Participants Tour NJ High Performing Schools

Participants visited high performing public schools in Newark to observe excellence in action and to strategize with local and national educational reform leaders on improving the quality of education for Black children. Visitors applauded the excellence of:

- Gray Charter School
- North Star Academy Charter School
- Newark Collegiate Academy
- University Heights Charter School



Symposium Sponsors

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Program Chair's Welcome Luncheon

Program Chair Dr. Deborah McGriff opened the Welcome Lunch with a Mardi Gras second line complete with beads and masks for all. High tech prizes were awarded to three early registration winners. Participants were inspired by Shavar Jeffries, Chair of the Newark Public Schools Advisory Board, and Georgia State Representative Alisha Morgan. Christopher “Kazi” Rolle’s Ode to Harriet Ball honored the transformative contributions of her Musical Ballpoints.



Major BAEO Contributors

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Tribute to Harriet Ball



In memory of Ms. Harriet Ball

Gone to soon, like we buried our mom. We cannot let the legacy fall. We have to carry it on. She invested time and made metrics a rhyme. We can't see that Hip-Hop then my guess, you're blind. Proof's in the pudding. Get out what you put in. Told kids, they could do, what others said they could not. She took kids from the bottom, defied the script. She elevated young minds to the highest, the tip.

In search of service of our youth, she did not tire a bit. Taught teachers how to teach, and inspired KIPP, known as the Mother of the classroom, she birthed many styles. Fearless learning! Worked with any child. Not your average Betty. Passion was heavy. Took the words "low performing" out her vocabulary. Plus I really love the fact she would rap and interact. A female emcee, school was the stage. Even from the grave, she increasing the grades. Teaching to the test is not increasing the A's; these are different. Ms. Ball a friend and a coach.

They use to question how she did it. Now they taking notes. Let's celebrate the life of the this education icon. Let her be an example to us.



Written and performed for Symposium 2011 by Christopher Kazi Rolle. To see Chris Kazi Rolle's Ode to Harriett Ball live performance, log on to the web at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYnqbO6sTNI>

"Great case studies to mimic and excellent knowledge."

"I was so moved by Symposium and now have the skills to advocate for parental choice in my state." – Parent, Connecticut

"Symposium is run so smoothly and well organized. I LOVE the placement of pictures of children throughout the meeting space. It is a reminder of why we are here." – Parent

"The presenters did a good job sharing the pros and cons of single gender education."

"It was very encouraging to hear the steps I must take to show my child's teacher what makes my child learn better."

Program Leaders

Darryl Cobb
High Performing
Black Led
Charter Schools
Strand Co-Leader



Andrea Foggy-Paxton
High Performing Black
Led Charter Schools
Strand Co-Leader



Isaac Ewell
Title II Strand
Co-Leader



Jacqueline Cooper
Director of Strategic Initiatives



Mashea Ashton
High Performing Black
Led Charter Schools
Strand Co-Leader



Robert Pavlik
Title II Strand Co-Leader



Tracie Craft
Mobilization and
Advocacy Strand Leader



"I liked the diversity of the type of schools the panelists represented. They gave different perspectives on the process."

"The presenters were great, especially the Ivy Prep School Leader. She was reflective but still kept it real."

"Very informative and I will do my best to bring the Milwaukee Summer Reading Program to St. Louis"

"I am on information overload and inspiration overload. I need to debrief!" - Parent

"Excellent content and inspirational!"

"This session really opened my eyes on how effective web 2.0 really is."

"Symposium was so positive, uplifting and informative. I can't wait to take this information home to share with others." - Parent, Washington DC

"Not a hip hop fan! Must become one in order to bond with my granddaughter."

Concurrent Sessions Inform, Inspire & Empower

BAEO continues to meet or exceed the expectations of participants. Interactive sessions received an 85% rating of excellent or good throughout Symposium from participants. BAEO continues to meet or exceed the program needs of participants.



Planning Committee Members

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Danielle Wright,
Host Region 2011

Keita Young

Concurrent Sessions Inform, Inspire & Empower



Special Features



Book Signings



Alisha Thomas Morgan
*No Apologies: Powerful Lessons
in Life, Love & Politics*



Kevin P. Chavous
*Serving Our Children: Charter Schools and
the Reform of American Public Education*



Virginia Walden Ford
*Voices, Choices, and Second Chances:
How to Win the Battle to Bring Opportunity*

Annual Membership Meeting



BAEO's "The Experiment"



Conversation with Board Chair and President



The Hip-Hop Project



Annual Chair's Dinner

Ann Duplessis, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer in the Office of the Mayor for the City of New Orleans, received the Board Chair's award from Kevin P. Chavous, former Washington, DC councilman and BAEO Board Chair. She received congratulations from BAEO Vice Chair, Dr. Deborah M. McGriff, former Secretary of Education and the recipient of the first Board Chair award, Rod Paige, and BAEO President, Kenneth Campbell. The BAEO Bucks prize for thought leadership was presented to Ohaji Brown, a student from CEO Leadership Academy in Milwaukee.



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Rod Paige

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Symposium 2012 Heads to Nation's Capitol



"This information was very helpful to me. As a parent, it provided me with a guide of what to look for when evaluating a reading program to enroll my child in. I wish you continued with this program."

"Upon returning home I plan to advocate and build parents power to become a BAEO champion!"

"Great session! I am inspired to work harder at educating parents and advocating for quality access to better education."

"Motivational and encouraging with how hip hop can positively affect urban youth."

"Excellent topic, glad that you began with the data, which spurred the inception of the program. Really appreciate hearing the story and the context of the program."

"The entire session was very good. We have got to find a way to get parents and grandparents to relate to our young people on their level. Do not knock hip hop that's a negative response!"

Support Symposium 2012

CHAMPION: \$50,000 OR MORE

- Opportunity to distribute give-away materials and products with corporate logo to event participants (*circulation 550*)
- Sponsorship recognition on BAEO website
- Sponsorship acknowledgement in BAEO newsletter (*circulation 1,500*)
- Name recognition in Symposium Program Book and Documentation Report (*circulation 600*)
- Name recognition in registration and General Session areas
- Public acknowledgement during General Sessions
- Five complimentary registrations

VANGUARD: \$25,000 TO \$49,999

- Sponsorship recognition on the BAEO website
- Sponsorship recognition in BAEO newsletter (*circulation 1,500*)
- Name recognition in Symposium Program Book and Documentation Report (*circulation 600*)
- Name recognition in registration and General Session areas
- Public acknowledgement during General Sessions
- Four complimentary registrations

TRAILBLAZER: \$10,000 TO \$24,999

- Name recognition in Symposium Program Book and Documentation Report (*circulation 600*)
- Sponsorship recognition in BAEO newsletter (*circulation 1,500*)
- Three complimentary registrations

ACTIVIST: \$5,000 TO \$9,999

- Name recognition in Symposium Program Book and Documentation Report (*circulation 600*)
- Two complimentary registrations

SENTINEL: \$1,000 TO \$4,999

- Name recognition in Symposium Program Book and Documentation Report (*circulation 600*)
- One complimentary registration

BENEFACTOR: \$500 TO \$999

- Name recognition in Symposium Program Book and Documentation Report (*circulation 600*)

"As a first timer at a BAEO Symposium and as a parent I have learned a lot about what I can do to help my kids education as well as what I need to pay close attention to. I also learned how, I can engage more parents. As a parent of three children, I thank you."

"The presentations were very interesting and informative. I intend to use a lot of the information in my classroom."

"This workshop gave me an idea of what to do when I return home. To do the work of promoting parent choice and not to give up. All power to the people!"

"Moderator did excellent job of managing the flow, encouraging and pulling in participation. Presenters were informative and valued their model of work."

"This workshop was informative, engaging and purposeful for me. I am on fire to go back and put some of these practices in our community. As an individual, I am accountable for the information I learn. We are soldiers in the fire for our kids."

Invest In Our Future! Partner with Us to **Empower, Inspire and Inform** Educational Advocates! **Be a Proud Sponsor** of **Symposium 2012** Washington, D.C.



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Contact: Keita Young at (201) 926-6040 or keita@baeo.org

"My heart is so full from the wisdom, knowledge and I am more enlightened about parental choice."

"The presenters were so passionate and provided so much relevant information for us to take back to Connecticut in order to help our parents make decisions about what is best for their children."

"As an emerging leader this session not only encouraged me, but also gave me the tools to go home and empower my peers"

"Wow! The panelists are to be admired for their commitment to educating young black males. Your strength and determination is great!"

"The panel participants were very informative. I enjoyed the feedback from the sessions. Really good!"

SYMPOSIUM



Black Alliance for Educational Options

March 1-3, 2012

Grand Hyatt Washington
1000 H Street NW
Washington, DC

SAVE THE DATE

Questions contact: events@baeo.org

Support BAE0



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