



Building Financial Security

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about building financial security, in a very informative presentation by Angela Bledsoe, a Financial Consultant with AXA Advisors, LLC. This was a very timely presentation, given the current state of the economy, and members and non-members alike came away with an increased knowledge of securing finances for today and tomorrow.

Ms. Bledsoe, who received her BS in Business Administration from Florida A&M University, presented the “building blocks” leading to financial security as **1) Risk Management, 2) Cash Management, 3) Emergency Reserves, 4) Accumulation, 5) Retirement Planning,** and finally **6) Legacy (Estate Planning).**

The first building block, **Risk Management**, includes the various types of insurance offering protection against the unplanned or unforeseen, including health insurance, life insurance, long term care insurance, disability insurance, and property insurance, i.e. auto insurance, home insurance, etc. Ms. Bledsoe advised to pay a bit more for a lower deductible, so that if the unforeseen should happen, you end up paying less out of pocket. She also stressed the importance of disability insurance, which insures that you still receive income should you become too disabled to work, and long term care insurance, which provides for any necessary elder care.

The second building block, **Cash Management**, is the manner in which one allocates funds to achieve financial goals, including setting a budget, managing and paying

down debt, and money going towards short term savings. After cash management should come emergency reserves. These are 3-6 months of expenses that are set aside in a liquid account (i.e. savings or checking account) for any emergency situations (such as unexpected job loss, emergency medical care expenses, etc.).

The next block, **Accumulation**, includes saving for major expenses. Ms. Bledsoe differentiated between accumulating short term funds, for expenses in the next 1-5 years such as a car or vacation, and medium term funds, for expenses in the next 5-15 years, including a home, college expenses, etc. Vehicles for short term and medium term funds can include certificates of deposit (CDs), money market accounts, mutual funds, and stocks and bonds. **(Continued on page 2)**

2009 National BDPA Conference - August 5 - 8, Raleigh, NC



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The 2009 National BDPA Conference is fast approaching! This year’s conference will be held in Raleigh, NC from August 5 through August 8, at the Raleigh Convention Center.

The national conference is an annual forum dedicated to joining IT Professionals with the latest technology advances, and career and professional development opportunities. The mission is to provide access to the most innovative concepts in emerging technologies, theories, research and education.

Please visit map.bdpa.org/events/EV04EventDetail.aspx?eventID=1329 for more information on the 2009 National Conference and to register. See you in Raleigh!

2009 BDPA-NY Awards Ceremony Honoring our Students' Achievements

June 11, 2009

6:00 pm—8:30 pm

299 Park Ave

New York, NY

More info will be posted on our website when available



Building Financial Security Cont.

(Continued from page 1)

After accumulation comes one of the most important blocks towards building financial security: **Retirement Planning**. Retirement planning is accumulating long term funds that will provide the foundation for one's retirement. Retirement vehicles include Social Security, Pension, 401(k), 403(b), TSAs, IRAs (traditional and Roth), and annuities. Ms. Bledsoe stressed that social security benefits are much smaller than what they were in the past, and may continue to decrease for upcoming generations, citing as an example one of her client's, whose mother earned considerably less income than her (the client), but received considerably more in social security. She also pointed out that company pensions were becoming less common and shouldn't be relied

on too much for retirement. Ms. Bledsoe stressed accumulating funds in other vehicles, including the 401(k), 403(b) (for government employees), TSA (for teachers) and IRAs, and contributing enough to receive the employee match (for 401(k) and 403(b)). Ms. Bledsoe also advised against taking loans out on any retirement vehicles. Though tempting, this should be avoided due to penalties and the financial setback it will cause when it comes to retirement planning.

The last building block, **Legacy**, involves planning the efficient transfer of assets upon death. This includes setting up any legal documents (wills, trusts, power of attorney), tax planning, and any foundations or charitable giving desired upon death. Ms. Bledsoe advised that there is no minimum age to set up legal docu-

ments such as wills, and these should be updated regularly based on changes in one's personal life. She also mentioned that more than one power of attorney can be set up, i.e. one for handling finances, one for handling medical issues, etc. Ms. Bledsoe stressed the importance of estate planning, since no or little planning may transfer assets elsewhere (through auctions, etc.), sometimes in the wrong hands. Since death is an inevitable part of life, it's important to have the necessary steps in place to pass what you've worked hard to acquire in life to the next generation.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a consultation with Ms. Bledsoe, please contact her at angela.bledsoe@axa-advisors.com.

Submitted by Danielle Caution

New York Area IT Events April-May 2009

April 7
Get Digital: Social Media Networking Party
6:30 pm—8:30 pm
New World Stages
New York, NY
For more info and to RSVP, please visit: 090407-invitefriends.eventbrite.com/

April 18
Engineering the World Mini-Conference
Hosted by Time Warner/CNN
8:00 am—6:00 pm
Time Warner Center
New York, NY
For more info and to register please contact Jasmine Miller at hr@bdpany.org

May 13
Technology, Engineering, and Security Clearance Career Fair
Hosted by Dice.com
11:00 am—3:00 pm
Radisson Martinique
New York, NY
For more info and to register visit www.targetedjobfairs.com/tjf/events/detail.jsp?eventid=2382

In the Community: April—May 2009



Youth Dating Violence and Healthy Relationship Workshop

Sponsored by Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence and Dept. of Youth

12:00 pm—1:30 pm

April 2 & April 30

CUNY-Bronx Community College
Bronx, NY

For more info visit: 128.228.5.19/eventDetail.asp?EventId=21444

Entrepreneurship Bootcamp

April 8—May 13

Hosted by NYC Business Solutions

5:30 pm—8:00 pm

Various Locations throughout NYC area

For more info and to register visit home.nyc.gov/html/sbs/nycbiz/html/business_courses/course_catalog.shtml#entrepreneurship



Growing any Business Idea in 90 Days

April 9

6:30 pm — 8:30 pm

Hosted by Harlem Business

Alliance

Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone

Harlem, NYC

For more info and to register visit:

www.hbany.org/events/164-growing-any-business-idea-90-days

Lower Manhattan Spring 2009 Job Fair

April 17

Hosted by the Chinese-American Planning Council

10:00 am — 3:00 pm

Meyer London School

New York, NY

For more info visit www.cpc-nyc.org

WCBS-AM Working Women's Luncheon

April 22

11:30 am — 2:00 pm

Rainbow Room

Rockefeller Center

New York, NY

Tickets: \$50 (by April 1), \$65 after

For more info and to register visit wcbs.zipscene.com/events/view/1449070



Hands on New York Day

April 25

Sponsored by New York Cares

9:30 am — 3:00 pm

Public Parks throughout NYC area

For more info and to register visit:

www.handsonnewyorkday.org



Black Family Technology Awareness Week Summary



BDPA-NY would like to thank everyone that attended and supported our events during the 2009 Black Family Technology Awareness Week, including our February 16 Kick off Event and February 19 Entrepreneur's Forum.

Our February 16 Kick-off Event, gave BDPA-NY an opportunity to share with the attendees our exciting youth initiatives such as BDPA's IT Showcase and High School Computer Competition (HSCC) Program. Dr. Jesse Bemley, the former National BDPA Education Chairperson who developed the HSCC program in 1986, was guest speaker. Highlights also included a presentation by a past winner of the IT Showcase, Marcus Smith, who presented his research titled *Saving the Polar Bear through Technology*. BDPA-NY's own HSCC students also presented the web application they developed during the 2008 National Conference HSCC Competition (for which they came in 6th place).

Thursday, February 19 was the Drive Your Business with Technology forum, sponsored by UBS. This event allowed a panel of accomplished professionals and entrepreneurs the opportunity to share with the attendees how they use technology to build and support their businesses and professions. This event also allowed attendees to learn the role technology can play in their business growth. Panelists included Erika Cunningham, of UBS, Jacqueline Muna Musiitwa of Hoja Law Group, G.H. Brooks of UBS, and Cosby Smiley of Microsoft.

For photos from our 2009 Black Family Technology Awareness Week, go to page 5.

Submitted by Danielle Cauthen

DTV Transition Reminder: June 12



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Don't forget that the cut off date for the conversion from analog television to digital television (DTV) is **June 12, 2009**. If you currently get your television service by a cable, satellite or other paid service you do not have to worry about the transition. If you are relying on an antenna for your television transmission then you must take action prior to the cut off date. The following are the options that you can choose to make the transition:

- Purchase a TV converter box
- Connect to cable, satellite or other paid services
- Purchase a television with a digital tuner

The government has offered a coupon program as incentive for those who choose, or have to, keep their analog TV and purchase a converter box. You can either go to the website or call to request a coupon providing a \$40 discount towards the purchase of a converter box. There is a limit of 2 coupons per household and the coupons have a 90 day expiration period. To apply for a coupon, the contact information is as follows:

Website: www.dtv2009.gov

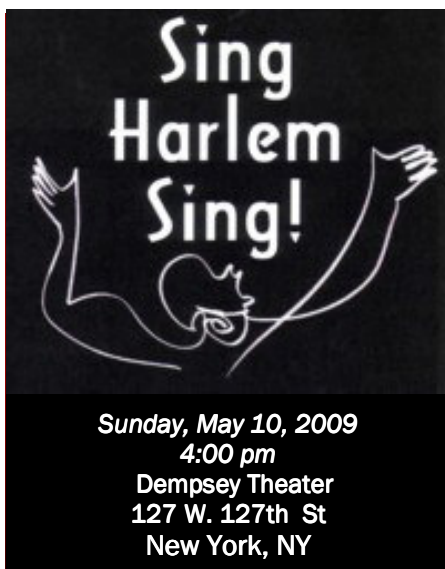
Phone: (888) 388-2009 [toll free 24 hour]

Phone: (877) 530-2634 [English / TTY]

Phone: (866) 495-1161 [Spanish/TTY]

Submitted by Denise Hamilton

BDPA-NY Spring Theatre Fundraiser: *Sing Harlem Sing!*



Join the BDPA-NY Chapter at our Spring Fundraiser

Sing Harlem Sing!

Sing Harlem Sing!, the new musical created by Vy Higginsen and Ken Wydro, is based on Vy's early experiences as a radio personality on WBLS, WWRL and KISS-FM in New York. "Nothing is more stirring and healing than the sound of the human voice singing with energy, enthusiasm and power." The musical production features an emotional blend of Gospel, R&B and Soul music from "back in the day" performed with passion and power by some of the best singers in New York.

Tickets: \$35.00 Payment Deadline: April 3

For more info or to purchase tickets visit www.bdpa-ny.org/events.htm

All monies collected go towards funding our student programs

"Sing Harlem Sing!" artwork by Sir Shadow and image courtesy mamafoundation.org

2008 BDPA-NY Holiday Mixer—December 11, 2008—Moca Lounge, Harlem, NYC

A merry time was had by all at BDPA-NY's Holiday Party and Book Drive, on Thursday, December 9 at the Moca Lounge in Harlem. BDPA-NY received a collection of books that were donated to the Harlem Children's Zone and Nassau County Department of Children's Services. Here are a few pictures from the event:



2009 Black Family Technology Awareness Week—February 15-21, 2009

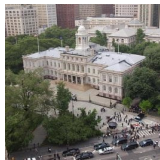


1. Members of BDPA pose with guest speaker Dr. Jesse Bemley (standing fourth from left) at BFTAW Kickoff Event
2. HSCC Students Present at BFTAW Kickoff Event
3. HSCC/SITES Students outside the United Nations before their tour of the UN Technical Data Center
4. Past IT Showcase winner, Marcus Smith presents his research
5. Members of BDPA at BFTAW Kickoff Event



Student & Youth Opportunities

New York City Summer Youth Employment Program



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The New York City Summer Youth Employment Program provides seven-week summer employment opportunities to youth from the ages of 14 to 21. Those selected work up to 25 hours a week, earning \$7.15 per hour in assignments ranging from government agencies, hospitals, and summer camps to museums, and sports and retail organizations. The application process begins **April 1, 2009**, and applications are accepted through **May 15, 2009**. For more information and to apply (starting April 1) please visit www.nyc.gov/html/dycd/html/home/home.shtml

Young Men Employment Conference



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Empower Today's Youth, an organization geared towards empowering at-risk youth with tools to succeed, will be hosting a Young Men Employment Network Student Conference on **April 24, 2009** on the Newark, NJ campus of Rutgers University. There will be workshops on a wide range of career and personal development topics. Registration is \$25 per student. For more information and to register, please visit empowertodayyouth.com/events.php

New York University Pre-College Summer Commuter Program



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New York University's Pre-College is an annual commuter summer program geared towards New York City area high school juniors and seniors. This program allows students to take various courses at NYU, many offering college credit, while getting exposure to college life. The application deadline to be considered for financial aid is **April 1, 2009** and the final deadline to apply is **April 15, 2009**. For more information and to apply please visit www.nyu.edu/summer/2009/highschool/program.html

Student Employment Opportunities in US Federal Government



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Studentjobs.gov is a website aimed at high school, college, and graduate school students interested in employment within the Federal Government. The site offers a job search, scholarship and grant search, resume builder, and other tools for professional and academic development. Visit www.studentjobs.gov.

Columbia University Summer Program for High School Students



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Columbia University's 22nd Annual Summer Program for High School Students offers high achieving students the opportunity to explore college life through college level coursework and various extracurricular activities. Students may either commute or reside in campus housing. The final application deadline is **April 3, 2009**. For more information and to apply please visit www.ce.columbia.edu/hs/about.cfm?PID=4&Content=Overview

E2@UMD (Exploring Engineering at the University of Maryland)



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Exploring Engineering at the University of Maryland (*E2@UMD*) is a one-week summer program for high school junior and senior females, who have interest in studying and pursuing a career in engineering. All selected students live on the University of Maryland campus, and have the chance to participate in engineering activities, experiments, workshops, and seminars led by professional engineers. The cost of the program includes a partial housing scholarship. Application review begins **April 6, 2009**. For more information and to apply please visit www.wie.umd.edu/precollege/e2umd.html



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BDPA-New York 2009 Executive Board

- President.....Judaea Y. Lane (pres@bdpa-ny.org)
- VP of Finance.....Wanda Jackson (vpf@bdpa-ny.org)
- VP of Membership Management.....Renetta English (vpmm@bdpa-ny.org)
- VP of Member Services.....Evelyn Poole (vpms@bdpa-ny.org)
- VP of Strategy & Planning.....Keith Alexander (vpssp@bdpa-ny.org)
- Director of Communications/Webmaster.....Danielle Cauthen (comm@bdpa-ny.org)
- Director of Education.....Denise Hamilton (educ@bdpa-ny.org)
- Director of Human Resources.....Jasmine Crosby-Miller (hr@bdpa-ny.org)
- Director of Support Services.....Cheri Jack (support@bdpa-ny.org)
- Recording Secretary.....Kevin Fountain (recsec@bdpa-ny.org)
- Immediate Past President.....Jeffry Kimble (ipp@bdpa-ny.org)

About BDPA

Founded in 1975 by Earl Pace and the late David Wimberly, BDPA (formerly Black Data Processing Associates) is a premier networking organization for minorities and IT professionals alike. BDPA is a global, member focused organization that positions its members at the forefront of the IT industry. We are committed to delivering value to our members strategic partners, and to the community. BDPA-NY aspires to be a leading chapter in the national BDPA organization. Our members include individuals who are employed with corporations, government agencies, educational institutions, entrepreneurs, as well as high school and college students.

The New York Chapter, 501(c)(6), is the 4th largest chapter of 56 Chapters across the United States. Chartered in September 1982, our chapter has successfully reached out to our community through networking, education programs, seminars, workshops, and the annual conferences. Also, we serve as community partner for the Community Technology Centers and engage everyone to learn about technology, careers, and higher education.

April-December 2009 BDPA-NY Event Calendar

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>April 16
 Program Meeting
 <i>Web Analytics</i></p> <p>May 10
 BDPA-NY Theatre Fundraiser
 <i>Sing Harlem Sing!</i></p> <p>June 11
 <i>Scholarship & Recognition Award Ceremony</i></p> <p>July 16
 Program Meeting
 <i>Social Marketing Strategies</i></p> <p>August 5-8
 <i>2009 National BDPA Technology Conference</i>
 <i>Raleigh, NC</i></p> | <p>August
 Date TBD
 <i>IT Social Mixer and Membership Drive</i></p> <p>September 17
 Program Meeting
 <i>Enterprise Architecture</i></p> <p>October 15
 Program Meeting
 <i>Networking and Community Services</i></p> <p>November 19
 Program Meeting
 <i>Business Intelligence</i></p> <p>December
 Date TBD
 <i>IT Holiday Mixer</i></p> |
|---|---|

Program Meetings begin at 6:30pm and are held (unless otherwise specified) at

UBS
1285 Avenue of Americas
New York, NY 10005

Subway Directions: Take the **B, D, or F to 47-50 Rockefeller Center** (closest stop), the **E or V to 53rd St/5th Ave**, or the **N, R, W to 49th St.**

To attend a meeting/event it's extremely important to RSVP to hr@bdpa-ny.org. Please visit www.bdpa-ny.org/events.htm for up-to-date information on all our events.

