



APRIL 29-30

THE WATERGATE HOTEL, WASHINGTON, DC

Awards Dinner Program

WE HAVE THE DATA, NOW WHAT?

A LOOK BACK AT OVER 25 YEARS



— NATIONAL —
MINORITY QUALITY
— FORUM —



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Gary A. Puckrein, PhD



Robin L. Kelly, PhD

Welcome to the 2024 Annual NMQF Leadership Summit on Health Disparities and Spring Health Braintrust Gala,

We are so proud to welcome so many esteemed leaders to this year's summit and gala. We hope you'll remember the conversations we have had during these last two days as they are critical in shaping a healthcare landscape that is inclusive, accessible, and responsive to the needs of all individuals.

This year's summit, themed "We have the data, now what? A look back at over 25 years," marks a celebration of NMQF's indispensable contributions to raising awareness of minority health disparities. Moreover, this year's summit guided us toward an equitable future for both public health and patient care.

Throughout the Summit, we were joined by distinguished experts from every corner of the United States who will enrich our discussions and inspire action. Experts like Dr. Yolanda Lawson, who was recently installed as the 124th President of the National Medical Association and studies on the use of digital innovation to reduce healthcare disparities or Commissioner Rochelle Garza who fights for the civil rights of all Americans.

Tonight, we will honor our 9th class of 40 Under 40 Leaders in Minority Health. These are the most accomplished millennials and Gen Zers that we have ever seen. We know that they will continue to do great things and move the needle forward on health equity.

And finally, there's our Lifetime Achievement Award winner Dr. Bernard Harris. We all know him as the first Black person to walk in space. But as great of an achievement that is—he has done so much more. From his work as a physician, commitment to STEM education, fighting for health and health equity, and service to every community he interacts with, there is no other servant leader that we could honor as we continue to strive for diversity, equity and inclusion in health care.

As Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust, and CEO of the National Minority Quality Forum, we want to thank you for your participation in this year's forum. As we continue to work with my colleagues in Congress and in health and healthcare policy to reduce health disparities and increase health resources for minority communities, we rely on your knowledge and support to achieve lasting change.

Thank you for attending this year's Annual NMQF Leadership Summit on Health Disparities and Spring Health Braintrust.

Sincerely,

Robin L. Kelly, PhD

Chair, Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust

Gary A. Puckrein, PhD

President & CEO, National Minority Quality Forum



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24-071-R02

Dinner Agenda

2024 Leadership Awards Dinner

HOST



Gary A. Puckrein, PhD

HONORARY CO-HOST



Cong. Robin L. Kelly, PhD (D-IL)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES:

Joe Briggs, Sr, JD, MA
Amazon

INVOCATION

Bishop Dr. James Lee Carter
Pastor
Ark Church

WELCOME AND REMARKS

Gary A. Puckrein, PhD
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Minority Quality Forum

Robin L. Kelly, PhD

Chair, Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust
Member, U.S. House of Representatives (IL-02)

2024 LEADERSHIP AWARDS:

40 UNDER 40 LEADERS IN HEALTH

We want to build on the success of 40 Under 40 to create programming and events—like mentoring and career development workshops-- that help cultivate the next generation of healthcare leaders of color. We also want to provide need-based stipends for young minority healthcare professionals to attend the NMQF Summit.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:


Bernard Harris, Jr, MD, MBA

Chief Executive Officer,
Managing Partner Vesalius Ventures
Founder, The Harris Institute/Foundation

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LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Bernard A. Harris, Jr., MD, MBA, FACP
Chief Executive Officer, Managing Partner Vesalius Ventures
Founder, The Harris Institute/Foundation

Dr. Harris is currently CEO & Managing Partner of Vesalius Ventures, Inc., a venture capital firm, that invest in early to mid-stage Healthcare technologies and companies. He is responsible for managing a portfolio of private assets of early and mid-stage venture investments and operating companies.

He served as CEO and Executive Director, National Math & Science Initiative and led the organization's efforts to improve teacher effectiveness and student achievement in communities across the country. He has been involved in math and science education for over 25 years through his philanthropy as founder of the Harris Institute & Foundation.

Dr. Harris was at NASA for ten years, where he conducted research in musculoskeletal physiology and clinical investigations of space adaptation and developed in-flight medical devices to extend Astronaut stays in space. A veteran astronaut for over thirty years, he has logged more than 438 hours and traveled over 7.2 million miles in space.

He is a member of the Board of Directors for Raytheon Technologies (NYSE: RTX), MassMutual, and U.S. Physical Therapy (NYSE: USPH). Dr. Harris served as a Board of Director/Trustee for Salient Midstream & MLP Fund and Salient MF Trust, and Barings Fund & BBDC. In addition, he is on the non-profit Boards of the Texas Medical Center (currently Chair), Astronaut Scholarship Foundation and the Harris Institute & Foundation.

He earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Houston, a Master of Medical Science from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Houston and a Doctorate of Medicine from Texas Tech University School of Medicine. He completed a Residency in Internal Medicine at the Mayo Clinic, a National Research Council Fellowship in Endocrinology at the NASA Ames Research Center and trained as a Flight Surgeon at the Aerospace School of Medicine, Brooks Air Force Base. He is also a licensed private pilot and certified scuba diver.

Dr. Harris is the recipient of numerous awards, including nine (9) honorary doctorates; (Stony Brook University (SUNY), Morehouse School of Medicine, New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), Washington & Jefferson College, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, University of Hartford, Indiana Institute of Technology, University of Houston and University of the Sciences), NASA Space Flight Medal, NASA Award of Merit, National Space Grant Distinguished Services Award, James Bryant Conant Award, a fellow of the American College of Physicians, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the recipient of the 2000 Horatio Alger Award.

He is the author of "Dream Walker: A Journey of Achievement and Inspiration."



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Mikaylah, Production Technician - US

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to strengthening communities
and reducing health disparities.



Photo credit: Northwell Health



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[WhatStartsHere.aamc.org](https://www.whatstartshere.aamc.org)



Centene Corporation is proud of our partnership with the National Minority Quality Forum

Centene shares NMQF's long-standing commitment to eliminate health disparities and ensuring that underserved communities receive optimal care.

Centene values NMQF as a partner in transforming the health of the communities we serve, one person at a time.

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40 UNDER 40

LEADERS IN HEALTH AWARDS

40 UNDER 40 LEADERS IN HEALTH AWARD WINNERS



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Benjamín Aceves, PhD, MPH, MA
School of Public Health,
San Diego State University



Chidiebere Akusobi, MD, PhD
Massachusetts General Hospital



Simar Bajaj
Massachusetts General Hospital



**Lawrence B. Brown,
MD, MPH, MHS**
Johns Hopkins University



Taneal D. Carter, MS, MPA
National Comprehensive
Cancer Network



Ariel Dees, MD
Medical University
of South Carolina



Ashley Ford, MD
Mount Sinai Health System



Aaron Douglas Dotson, MD
The University of Iowa

40 UNDER 40

LEADERS IN HEALTH AWARDS

40 UNDER 40 LEADERS IN HEALTH AWARD WINNERS



Guilmate Pierre Fuller, MPH, MCHES, CQIA
UT MD Anderson Cancer Center



Rochelle Garza, JD
United States Commission on Civil Rights



Juan Carlos Gonzalez, MBA, PMP
Meharry School of Global Health



Henry J. Henderson III, PhD
Foundation Medicine, Inc.



Domonic Hopson, MPH, FACHE
Neighborhood Family Practice



Iroque Igbinosa, MD
Stanford University School of Medicine



LTC Milissa U. Jones, MD, MPH, FAAP
Uniformed Services University



Nathaniel K. Jones, MD, MA, FAAP
Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania



Kamara Jones
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Ariel Jordan, MD
University of Michigan



Sandy Juste, MD MSc
Meharry Medical College



William J. Lee, J.D., M.S., MACE
Kershaw Talley Barlow, P.C.

40 UNDER 40

LEADERS IN HEALTH AWARDS

40 UNDER 40 LEADERS IN HEALTH AWARD WINNERS



Minghui Sam Li, PhD, MS
University of Tennessee
Health Science Center



Alister Martin F., MD, MPP
A Healthier Democracy



Bianca Mayes, MPH, CHES
Planned Parenthood
Federation of America



Adam J. Milam, MD, PhD, FASE
Mayo Clinic



Randy C. Miles, MD, MPH
Denver Health



Antonio Moya, MD, MPH
Los Angeles Department
of Health Services



Kimberly Nettles, PharmD, RPH
Johnson & Johnson
Innovative Medicine



**Robin Ortiz,
MD, MSHP, FAAP, DipABLM**
NYU Grossman School of Medicine



David Ramirez, MD
Lurie Children's Hospital,
Northwestern University



Emilie Rodriguez, BA, CD, LC
The Bridge Directory



**Brittani Saafir-Callaway,
PhD, MPH**
DC Health



Evan Michael Shannon, MD, MPH
UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine

40 UNDER 40

LEADERS IN HEALTH AWARDS

40 UNDER 40 LEADERS IN HEALTH AWARD WINNERS



Nilay S. Shah, MD, MPH
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



Bethany Strong, MD, MS, FACS
University of Maryland School of
Medicine



Subhan Tabba, MD, MBA
Texas Health Presbyterian
Hospital Dallas



Nadine Tavares
Rhode Island Department of Health



Ijeoma Uche, MPH
Birth By Us/University of California,
Davis School of Medicine



Jordee Wells, MD, MPH
The Ohio State University College of
Medicine



Elshaddai White, PhD
Black in Cancer/Elevar Therapeutics



**Gabriela Zicarelli,
PharmD, BCACP**
Walgreens, Co.

“Here at the NMQF, we are truly excited about this next class of honorees and recognizing them at our annual leadership summit,” stated NMQF President & CEO Dr. Gary Puckrein. “The winners are doing amazing things that both better and diversify the healthcare marketplace. They serve as positive role models for our next generation of leaders in minority health.”





Thank you!

Our Vision

To achieve a just and fair health system that ensures equitable access to optimal care.

As the nation's largest minority healthcare research, education, and advocacy organization, the National Minority Quality Forum is leading the charge for health equity. From data to action, we are working to reduce patient risk and ensure access to optimal care, especially for those who are most vulnerable.



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