



Thursday Network
Greater Washington Urban League

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

**THURSDAY NETWORK THANKS
THE 2008 CORPORATE SPONSORS OF ITS
14th ANNUAL YOUNG BLACKS GIVE BACK MONTH!**



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National Urban League Young Professionals
Serving the Greater Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area Since 1992



Thursday Network's 2008 "Young Blacks Give Back" Month Fact Sheet

Beginning Saturday, May 3, 2008, **Thursday Network**, the Young Professionals' Auxiliary of the Greater Washington Urban League and the National Urban League Young Professionals (NULYP) Chapter for the Greater Washington, DC metropolitan area, will begin its **fourteenth annual "Young Blacks Give Back" (YBGB) campaign.**

YBGB is a month-long series of community service events conducted throughout the month of May to reinvigorate members resolve to serve and to reinforce the importance of giving back to the community. YBGB is recognized by a DC mayoral proclamation, as an outstanding and noteworthy civic achievement.

Past YBGB activities have included career fairs for high school students, revitalization of DC public schools and parks, nursing home visits, etiquette workshops for middle school students, and financial literacy programs for young adults.

2008 YBGB Events

- **Avon Breast Cancer Walk (Saturday, May 3)** – Black women suffer from and succumb to breast cancer at a disproportionate rate when compared to women of other ethnicities. In support of women diagnosed with breast cancer and their families, Thursday Network will partner with Food and Friends (www.foodandfriends.org) to prepare meals for participants of the 2008 Avon Breast Cancer Walk in Washington, DC.
- **The NULYP National Day of Service (Thursday, May 8)** – Thursday Network will kick-off off the 5th Annual National Urban League Young Professionals National Day of Service by hosting a financial literacy program for students at Stewart Hobson Middle School in northeast, DC. City officials, congressional representatives, activists and entertainers have been invited to support our young people by equipping them with the proper tools to become financially literate adults.
- **Career Day (Friday, May 9)** – Members and friends of Thursday Network will spend the day with high school students at Friendship Collegiate Academy in northeast DC – sharing in-depth information about avenues of professional development and career choices following high school and college. Students will divide into program tracks and speak with professionals about their desired career paths, appropriate attire for professional and networking events, career goal-setting, and more!
- **Family Reading Day (Saturday, May 17)** – Thursday Network's Family Reading Day will bring together local students and adults for a day of activities promoting the importance of literacy and reading comprehension. The day consists of a "Read-In" where children and adults of different age groups will share in the tradition of our ancestors by reading aloud to each other and storytelling; and a book fair and arts & crafts session featuring Thursday Network's talented and enterprising 2008 I EMPOWER Scholarship recipients.
- **Sports Jam (Saturday, May 31)** – Back for a 2nd consecutive year, Thursday Network's Sports Jam will bring over 60 young professionals from the Washington, DC metropolitan area for a fun-filled day of physical and mental competition to raise funds for Thursday Network's I EMPOWER Scholarship Fund and I EMPOWER Education Enhancement Program (www.thursdaynetwork.org/volunteer.html). Sports Jam is the fifth and final community service vent for Thursday Network's 14th Annual "Young Blacks Give Back" Month and supports the National Urban League's health and quality of life platform (<http://nul.org/healthandqualityoflife.html>).

YBGB Facts

- "Young Blacks Give Back" is an annual month-long event dedicated to community service.
- Started in the spring of 1994 by former Thursday Network Community Service Chair Nancee Lyons.
- Because of her efforts, Lyons was honored as "Member of the Decade" at Thursday Network's ten-year anniversary celebration.
- Every year YBGB is granted a DC mayoral proclamation.
- Past events include Seniors' Day at the Washington Center for the Aging, Sports Jam, school and park beautification projects, career fairs, Money Talks, and Saturday School.
- Past partnerships include the Maya Angelou Public Charter School, Omicron Lambda Alpha Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Hands On DC, and Turning the Page.
- Past sponsors include Industrial Bank, State Farm Insurance, Citibank, and Subway.
- YBGB has been replicated by National Urban League Young Professionals Chapters in other major metropolitan cities, including St. Louis, Chicago, and Philadelphia.
- The early years of Thursday Network's YBGB campaign received media coverage on Fox 5 News (WTTG) and News Channel 8.

About Thursday Network

Thursday Network is the young professionals' auxiliary of the Greater Washington Urban League and Washington, DC chapter of the National Urban League Young Professionals. This non-profit organization is comprised of over 100 members dedicated to giving back to the Washington, DC metropolitan area through mentoring, philanthropy and community service. The mission of Thursday Network is to provide a forum for young adults, ages 21 to 35, to focus their energies on community service, political involvement, professional development and social consciousness.