Weaving the Fabric of Career and Community

The Marquette Hotel
Minneapolis, MN
February 17 - 21, 2010

Hosted by the Black Law Students Association of the University of Minnesota Law School
46 Schools... 35 Cities... Hundreds of Students...

will gather from across the Midwest to

**Learn – Share – Connect – Serve**

Capital University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland State University  
DePaul University  
Drake University  
Hamline University  
Chicago-Kent ITT College of Law  
Indiana University - Bloomington  
Indiana University - Indianapolis  
John Marshall Law School  
Loyola University  
Marquette University  
Michigan State University  
Northern Illinois University  
Northern Kentucky Univ. (Chase)  
Northwestern University  
Ohio Northern University  
Ohio State University  
Southern Illinois Univ. - Carbondale  
Saint Louis University  
Thomas M. Cooley Law School  
University of Akron  
University of Chicago  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Dayton  
University of Detroit Mercy  
University of IL - Urbana-Champaign  
University of Iowa  
University of Kansas  
University of Kentucky  
University of Louisville (Brandeis)  
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor  
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities  
University of Missouri  
University of Missouri - Kansas City  
University of North Dakota  
University of Notre Dame  
University of South Dakota  
University of Saint Thomas  
University of Toledo  
University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Valparaiso University  
Washburn University  
Washington University - Saint Louis  
Wayne State University  
William Mitchell College of Law
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December 3, 2009

Dear NBLSA Members and Friends:

This year has been especially exciting for the Mighty Midwest to bring a close to the final year before the dawn of a new decade. One of my goals is to make it easier for the Midwest region to communicate. This was accomplished by the establishment new communication channels to relay information to our population (including Google Groups, Facebook, and Twitter). The second major goal for this year was to increase participation from chapters who do not regularly participate in regional and national events. This second goal was accomplished by locating two of our annual events in Louisville, Kentucky and Minneapolis, Minnesota. I believe that these strategic moves have had tremendous effects. First, by positioning these events at these locations, it gives chapters the opportunity see that NBLSA is more than a local organization, rather, NBLSA is a national organization that functions on the local, regional, and national level.

As the Regional Convention quickly approaches, I would like to see increased participation from all chapters as compared to prior years. I would like to substantially revamp the Constitution, hold a Career Fair, and solidify the camaraderie that on the Midwest Region is known to have! This will only be able to occur if we get solid participation from the region and every one of its chapters. This year, the convention will be hosted by the University of Minnesota chapter of the National Black Law Students Association, Inc. (NBLSA). Jjais Forde, Regional Convention Coordinator, and Gillian S. Crowl, Regional Director of Programming and their respective committees, have been working diligently to ensure that we have an incredible convention. Even more, Twanna Hill, our College Student Director, has also provided significant programming for College Students who are interested in pursuing law as a career.

This year’s regional theme of “Weaving the Fabric of Career and Community” is more apt than ever. By solidifying strong ties with the NBLSA chapters in Minneapolis and building relationships with the legal community through the Diversity in Practice organization and local Minority bars and organizations, MWBLSA can rejuvenate many organizations’ commitment to diversity while in the midst of the current economic downturn. Through this commitment, the Midwest BLSA and legal community will be enriched.

MWBLSA wants you to come out to Minneapolis this February to celebrate these accomplishments and goals. At the Convention, you will have an opportunity to attend networking luncheons and receptions, a variety of workshops, and social events. In addition, advocates will have the opportunity to compete in the Moot Court and Mock Trial Competitions while getting constructive feedback from judging panels that include federal judges, state judges, attorneys, and law school professors. Additionally, the Regional Convention is a unique opportunity to develop the skills necessary for a successful legal career and network with law students from across the country. In all, our goal is to culminate this MWBLSA year with a Convention that produces enduring memories!

We hope to see each of you in Minneapolis. Feel free to contact us at mwblsa.regionalconvention@gmail.com or myself at Midwest@nblsa.org.

Very Truly Yours,

Karl O. Riley
Midwest Regional Chair
National Black Law Students Association 2009-2010
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17</strong></th>
<th><strong>THURSDAY, CONT’D</strong></th>
<th><strong>THURSDAY, CONT’D</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.</td>
<td>10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Don’t Forget What Counts… Census 2010</td>
<td>5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Dinner (On Your Own)</td>
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<td>Registration</td>
<td>10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Can You Sustain a Green Legal Career?</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Plenary Session</td>
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<td>6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. No Wine, Just “Cheese!” Photographer Available for Professional Portraits</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. – until Game Night &amp; Cocktails Hosted by Hamline BLSA</td>
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<td>Competitor’s Meeting</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Luncheon Hosted by St. Thomas BLSA</td>
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<td>8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.</td>
<td>1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. SISTER, SISTER SERIES: Attorney / Woman: Curse or Credit? Struggle or Strength?</td>
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<td>Welcome Reception</td>
<td>1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. O, BROTHER SERIES: Who Moved the Door to the Old Boys’ Club?</td>
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<td>Hosted by UMN</td>
<td>3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Business Development for the New Attorney</td>
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<td>(Business Casual)</td>
<td>3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Speed Networking: How to Get In &amp; Get Something Out</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Community Service Event Mpls. High Schools</td>
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<td><strong>FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Breakfast</td>
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<td>8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Who Says You Can’t Be Judgmental?</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. 10 Things You Do Now That Could Lead to Discipline Later! Ethics for the New Lawyer</td>
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<td>9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Mock Trial &amp; Moot Court Competitions</td>
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<td>TBA C.O.Y. Interviews</td>
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FRIDAY, CONT’D

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Plenary Session

10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Son or Slave?: Human Trafficking

10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
The History, Present and Future of Law & Banking

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Luncheon Hosted by William Mitchell BLSA

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Plenary Session

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Career Expo

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Your Secret Weapons: Fellowships & LLMs

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
The Power of the Pen: Publish or Perish!

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Dinner (On Your Own)

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
DOCUMENTARY: “Street Fight”

FRIDAY, CONT’D

10:00 p.m. – until
A Night on the Town

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Registration

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Mock Trial & Moot Court Final Rounds

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Plenary Session & Elections

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Should I Hang My Shingle? A Panel on Private Practice

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Fork in the Road?... Resume the Quest for the Perfect Résumé & Interview

12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Experience Minneapolis! (On Your Own)

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Optional Washburn A Mill Group Tour & Gallery Visit (Casual Attire)

SATURDAY, CONT’D

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Plenary Session

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
SHOWCASE SERIES: Perspectives on Unique Careers and Emerging Practice Areas

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Silent Auction

6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Cocktail Hour & Awards Banquet (Formal Attire)

10:00 p.m. – until
After Party

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Gospel Brunch

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
2010-11 Regional Board Transition Meeting

3:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
FILM: "Malcolm X" Tailgate with UMN (Casual Attire)

Unless otherwise noted, dress code is Business Attire and will be strictly enforced.
[Coming Soon]
**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

710 Marquette Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612) 333-4545  
[www.marquettehotel.com](http://www.marquettehotel.com)

*Shop & Dine:*  [www.ids-center.com](http://www.ids-center.com)

*ROOM RATE:*  $79 (internet access included)

*DEADLINE:*  Friday, February 5th, 2010

*PARKING:*  IDS Center Parking Facility by Central Parking System  
Weekday (Sun-Thu)  $21.00 / day  
Weekend (Fri-Sat)  $12.00 / day

*MEALS:*  
*MWB*

*CANCELLATIONS:*  Must cancel reservation at least 72 hours prior to scheduled date of arrival to avoid penalty.

**BOOK YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!**

1. Follow the link provided below:  
   OR

2. Call The Marquette's reservation line at:  
   1-800-328-4782
TRANSPORTATION

AIRLINES

Minneapolis ✈ St. Paul International Airport (MSP) ................................................. www.mspairport.com

- Lindbergh Terminal
  - American Airlines ........................................ 800-433-7300 ........................................ www.aa.com
  - Continental Airlines ................................. 800-525-0280 ........................................ www.continental.com
  - Delta Airlines ........................................... 800-221-1212 ........................................ www.delta.com
  - Midwest Airways ...................................... 800-452-2022 ........................................ www.midwestairlines.com
  - Northwest Airlines .................................. 800-255-2525 ........................................ www.nwa.com
  - United Airlines ........................................ 800-241-6522 ........................................ www.united.com
  - US Airways ......................................... 800-428-4322 ........................................ www.usairways.com

- Humphrey Terminal
  - Air Tran Airways ..................................... 800-247-8726 ........................................ www.airtran.com
  - Southwest Airlines ............................... 800-435-9792 ........................................ www.southwest.com
  - Sun Country Airlines ................................ 800-359-6786 ........................................ www.suncountry.com

BUSES

- Mega Bus ..................................................... www.megabus.com
  South 3rd Street, Minneapolis, MN. Arrivals and departures are on the north side of South 3rd Street just east of Chicago Avenue. The Downtown East/Metrodome Light Rail Metro Transit Station is one block Southwest.

- Greyhound .................................................. www.greyhound.com
  950 Hawthorne Avenue
  Minneapolis, MN 55403
  612-371-3325

CAR

- Minnesota Department of Transportation ................................................. www.dot.state.mn.us
- MapQuest ........................................................... www.mapquest.com
- AAA TripTik® Travel Planner ................................................................. www.aaa.com

Save Money! Go Green! Car Pool!
CAR RENTALS

- Alamo: www.alamo.com
- Avis: www.avis.com
- Budget: www.budget.com
- Dollar: www.dollar.com
- Enterprise: www.enterprise.com
- Hertz: www.hertz.com
- National Car: www.nationalcar.com
- Thrifty: www.thrifty.com

LIGHT RAIL

- Metro Transit
  Hiawatha Line (Route 55)
  Nicollet Mall Station
  35 South Fifth Street
  Minneapolis, MN 55402
  www.metrotransit.org/rail

SHUTTLE

- SuperShuttle
  Shared-Ride Airport Transportation.
  Door-to-Door Service.
  800-258-3826
  www.supershuttle.com
  reservations@supershuttle.net

TAXIS

- ABC Taxi: 612-788-1111
- Blue & White Taxi: 612-333-3333
- Green & White Taxi: 612-522-2222
- Red & White Taxi: 612-871-1600
- Yellow Cab: 612-824-4000

TRAIN

- Amtrak www.amtrak.com
  Midway Station (MSP)
  730 Transfer Road
  St. Paul, MN 55114
  800-872-7245

For additional information regarding Transportation, please e-mail:
Jais A. Forde, Regional Convention Coordinator
mwblsa.regionalconvention@gmail.com
The following programs are currently scheduled for the 2010 Regional Convention, but are subject to change.

RISK = RETURN: OPPORTUNITIES IN RISK MANAGEMENT & HEALTHCARE
Legal counsel for major medical players share the details of their burgeoning corporate practice.

THE FEDs AREN’T FED UP WITH HIRING
The federal government has vast resources and offers the legal practitioner an excellent quality of life. Find out how to pursue a career with the U.S. District Attorney’s Office, the CIA and the FBI.

CAN YOU SUSTAIN A GREEN LEGAL CAREER?
Energy – Construction – Technology. The quest for a greener environment has spanned the gauntlet of industries and lawyers are an integral part of managing compliance and putting these projects together. Come find out which practice areas may be affected by groundbreaking green initiatives.

ATTORNEY/WOMAN: CURSE OR CREDIT? STRUGGLE OR STRENGTH?
Female Attorneys offer their experiences and lessons learned. Find out how to maneuver the corporate structure, courtrooms and the legal profession at large as a woman. Get insider tips on how you should carve your niche, build professional allies, nurture client relationships and do it all in an appropriate manner.

“I am not a radical in anything, nor do I intend to be. I believe in efficacy of reason to bring about the best results.”
– Lutie A. Lytle

First African-American woman to be licensed to practice in Tennessee. First African-American woman to be admitted to the Kansas bar. Third African-American woman licensed to practice in the U.S. First African-American woman lawyer to practice in the U.S. First woman law instructor in the world.
**WHO MOVED THE DOOR TO THE OLD BOYS’ CLUB?**

From choosing a mentor to vying for career boosting assignments or cases. What you need to know about working your way into the legal culture and staking your claim. This program is applicable to those heading for either the private or public sector.

**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FOR THE NEW ATTORNEY**

*Not your Daddy’s networking.* Get a jump start on the partnership track or make sure you have the correct tools to fasten your newly hung shingle so the wind it doesn’t blow away. Get tips on providing unparallel legal services. Learn how to target clients, listen for business opportunities, develop a distinctive selling style and plan specific sales advances.

**SPEED NETWORKING: HOW TO GET IN & GET SOMETHING OUT**

Hear what an “elevator speech” is. Find out if you can network in a social setting. Learn how to emphasize your strengths and provide value without monopolizing the conversation. Then test out your new skills. Person with most contacts wins a prize.

**WHO SAYS YOU CAN’T BE JUDGMENTAL?**

Judges will relate their journey to the bench and then provide insight into what judges want from the litigators and counselors appearing before them.

**10 THINGS YOU DO NOW THAT COULD LEAD TO DISCIPLINE LATER!**

A discussion of ethics and a look at practical application. Learn how to handle an unethical request from a client or a supervisor? Should a lawyer ever blow a whistle? How can you build strong client relationships the ethical way?

**THE HISTORY, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF LAW & BANKING**

We have heard about the careers that have been lost to the current financial climate. Find out about the future of legal careers in the banking industry. What will be the new trend? What position can a new lawyer take to advance a career in this practice area? What should be avoided until an economic turn?
SON OR SLAVE?: HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world, with the total annual revenue for trafficking in persons estimated to be between $5 billion and $9 billion in the U.S. and a global annual market of about $42.5 billion. According to the National Human Rights Center (Berkeley, CA), there are currently about 10,000 forced laborers in the U.S., around one-third of whom are domestic servants and some portion of whom are children. The Associated Press reports that trafficking of children for domestic labor in the U.S. is an extension of an illegal but common practice in Africa. It is estimated that 14,500 to 17,500 people, mainly women and children, are trafficked to the U.S. annually. Take this crash course in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act 2000.

YOUR SECRET WEAPONS: FELLOWSHIPS & LLMs

Good News! Law school is just the beginning. Specialized degrees, clinical leadership, and the world of academia await. There’s more money and opportunity than you think and better work hours too! Myths will be expunged and the Truth will finally be told.

THE POWER OF THE PEN: PUBLISH OR PERISH!

It’s not too soon to begin building your body of written work. You don’t have to wait for the title of “expert” to be conferred upon you – you can take it! You already know more than you think. We’ll show you how.

DOCUMENTARY - “STREET FIGHT”

“It’s a dirty job, but someone has to do it.” This Academy Award Winning documentary details the hard-fought mayoral campaign of a young community activist and City Council member (Cory Booker) against a 16-year incumbent mayor with a powerful political machine (Sharpe James). The work brings to light many issues plaguing minority communities in Newark and exposes how the city government has failed to acknowledge them. Curry captures corrupt attempts by Mayor James and city employees, including police and "code enforcement," to sabotage Booker’s campaign. Run Time: 83 mins.
**SHOULD I HANG MY SHINGLE?: A PANEL ON PRIVATE PRACTICE**

From Immigration to Family Law to Real Estate and Beyond. Listen to a panel of private practitioners – learn from their experiences and pick their brains for start-up advice. Claim Your Career. Assert Your Independence. Do What Matters.

**FORK IN THE ROAD? RESUME THE QUEST FOR THE PERFECT RÉSUMÉ & INTERVIEW**

Are you heading for a breakdown or a breakthrough? Does your résumé captivate the audience, tell your story, and then leave them begging for more? Have you omitted something that could make all the difference? What have you included that could cut you off at the knees? What can you do before, during and after an interview to help seal the deal? What are the things you should NEVER say?

**PERSPECTIVES ON UNIQUE CAREERS AND EMERGING PRACTICE AREAS**

Who's hiring? Where's my niche? Do I have to practice? How can I merge my interests into a career that matters? Can I be a creative and exciting lawyer? Can I avoid writing briefs after graduation? Got Questions? We Have Answers.

**FILM - "MALCOLM X"**

For those whose travel plans do not conflict, come join the UMN Law School in a private screening of Spike Lee's biographical film "Malcolm X" on the Anniversary of Malcolm X’s Assassination and in celebration of Black History Month. Whether or not you agreed with the man, you can respect the journey. The movie will begin at 3:30pm, the exact time that Malcolm X was pronounced dead on February 21st, 1965.

Run Time: 202 mins.

For additional information regarding Programming, please e-mail:

**Jjais A. Forde, Regional Convention Coordinator**

mwblsaregionalconvention@gmail.com

**TENTATIVE PROGRAM PREVIEW**
The Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition (FDMCC), named in honor of the famed abolitionist and advocate for the newly freed class of former Negro slaves, is designed to raise critical issues lingering from the pre- and post-slavery period. The competition problem is structured to address contemporary legal questions relating to the status of minorities in the United States.

This year we celebrate 35 years of FDMCC and unparalleled levels of exceptional oral advocacy and brief writing. Since its inception in 1975, the FDMCC has been a cornerstone of National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA) programming. Each year over 100 teams compete within the six regional competitions, culminating in the top three teams from each region competing at the national level during NBLSA’s Annual Convention.

**FREDERICK DOUGLASS (1818-1895)**

Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey was born a slave in Talbot County, Maryland. As detailed in his autobiography *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave (1845)*, Douglass succeeded in learning to read from white children in the neighborhood and by observing the writings of men with whom he worked.

As an adult, Douglass produced regular *abolitionist* newspapers – the most famous of which, *The North Star*, carried the motto: “Right is of no Sex – Truth is of no Color – God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren.” Douglass came to see the United States Constitution as an anti-slave document that could and should be used as an instrument in the fight against slavery.

Already a highly respected *orator*, in 1843, Douglass participated in the American Anti-Slavery Society's Hundred Conventions project, a six-month tour of meeting halls throughout the Eastern and Midwestern United States. In 1848, he was the only African American to attend the Seneca Falls Convention, the birthplace of the American feminist movement, and sign its Declaration of Sentiments. Douglass, a true *suffragist*, said that he could not accept the right to vote himself as a black man if women could not also claim that right. He saw women’s involvement in the political sphere as critical, declaring “In this denial of the right to participate in government, not merely the degradation of woman and the perpetuation of a great injustice happens, but the maiming and repudiation of one-half of the moral and intellectual power of the government of the world.” The resolution for women's suffrage was passed on the strength of Douglass’ words.

Douglass was an early *advocate* for the desegregation of schools. In the 1850s, he was especially outspoken in New York – where the ratio of African American to white students was 1 to 40, yet African Americans received education funding at a ratio of only 1 to 1,600. Douglass emphasized the disparities and called for court action to reform the educational system and open all schools to all children.

After the Civil War, Douglass proved himself to be quite a versatile *statesman*. He served as President of the Reconstruction-era Freedman's Savings Bank; minister-resident and consul-general to the Republic of Haiti (1889-1891); and chargé d'affaires for the Dominican Republic. In 1872, he became the first African American nominated for Vice President of the United States, as Victoria Woodhull's running mate on the Equal Rights Party ticket. In service to the District of Columbia, he was appointed a United States Marshal in 1877 and the Recorder of Deeds in 1881. At the 1888 Republican National Convention, Douglass became the first African American to receive a vote for President of the United States in a major party's roll call vote.

For additional information regarding Moot Court, please e-mail: Sheena R. Hamilton, *Regional Director of Frederick Douglass Moot Court* mwblsamootcourt@gmail.com
In March of 2002, the general body of the National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA) voted to create the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition (TMMTC). Since its inception, past National TMMTC teams have worked diligently to create fact patterns and problems that are both interesting and intellectually stimulating. The TMMTC is a criminal trial that includes opening statements, direct examinations, cross examinations, motions arguments, and closing arguments. Students display incredible command of the evidence, law and facts while displaying great advocacy skills throughout the competition.

TMMTC has become one of the most respected competitions available to law students. The competition offers its participants an unparalleled experience in which to discover or hone their trial advocacy skills and capabilities. It has created a training ground for some of the most accomplished litigators that this country has produced. With the assistance of practicing judges, attorneys, and law professors, the prestige of this competition has been recognized across the nation.

THURGOOD MARSHALL (1908-1993)

Marshall was born in Baltimore, Maryland, the great-grandson of a slave and the son of a railroad porter. His father punished him for school misbehavior by forcing him to write copies of the Constitution, which piqued his interest in the document.

Marshall graduated from Frederick Douglass High School in Baltimore in 1925 and from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania cum laude in 1930. He wanted to apply to his hometown law school, the University of Maryland School of Law, but the dean told him that he would not be accepted because of the school’s segregation policy.

Marshall went on to receive his law degree from the Howard University School of Law in 1933 where he graduated first in his class. The following year, he began working with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He won his first major civil rights case with co-counsel Charles Hamilton Houston, Murray v. Pearson, 169 Md. 478 (1936). This was the first attempt to chip away at Plessy v. Ferguson, 163 U.S. 537 (1896). Marshall represented a black Amherst College graduate with excellent credentials who had been denied admission to the University of Maryland Law School because of its separate but equal policies. This policy required black students to accept one of three options: Morgan College, the Princess Anne Academy, or out-of-state black institutions. In 1935, Thurgood Marshall argued that neither of the in-state institutions offered a law school and that such schools were entirely unequal to the University of Maryland. The Maryland Court of Appeals ruled against the state of Maryland and its Attorney General, who represented the University of Maryland, stating “Compliance with the Constitution cannot be deferred at the will of the state. Whatever system is adopted for legal education now must furnish equality of treatment now.”

Marshall won his very first U.S. Supreme Court case, Chambers v. Florida, 309 U.S. 227 (1940), at the age of 32. That same year, he was appointed Chief Counsel for the NAACP. He went on to win civil rights cases overturning southern white primaries, racially restrictive covenants, and racial segregation on buses. His most famous case was Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), the case in which the Supreme Court ruled that “separate but equal” public education was unconstitutional because it could never be truly equal. Marshall won 29 out of the 32 cases he argued before the Supreme Court. In 1961 he was appointed circuit judge. He made 112 rulings, none of them reversed on certiorari by Supreme Court. In 1965, he was appointed U.S. Solicitor General. He won 14 of the 19 cases he argued for the government.

Thurgood Marshall became the first African American to be appointed to the Supreme Court on June 13, 1967. He was confirmed by a Senate vote of 69-11 on August 31, 1967. He retired from the Supreme Court in 1991.

For additional information regarding Mock Trial, please e-mail: Zeely O. Stewart, Regional Director of Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial mwblsaregionalconvention@gmail.com
**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Volunteers will visit two schools that serve primarily low-income, minority youth who have been unsuccessful in their traditional high schools. These schools do an excellent job of finding ways to connect with students and expose them to opportunities that encourage more future thinking. Volunteers will present an interactive lesson plan and discuss law school and preparation for law school – to encourage and support future thought/planning. The Schools are: **Service Adventure Leadership Team (SALT) High School**, 924 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404-2202 and **Phoenix High School**, 1006 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55408-2860. Transportation will be provided.

**CENSUS 2010**

The Executive Director of the **League of Women Voters Minnesota** will present on the importance of the census and the role that lawyers can play. Temporary nationwide job opportunities will be discussed. Don’t Forget What Counts!

**CAREER EXPO**

*How much is that career in the window?*
*The one with the soft leather chair?*
*How much is that career in the window?*
*I do hope that career is for sale!*

If only it were that easy to secure a future! Never fear, you can still hum a positive tune as you make your way to the MWBLSA’s Employment Boutique. Customize your career development experience: Window shop... See what’s in style... Try things on for size... Sample something new! Take control and build excitement about your future!

For additional information regarding Community Service, please e-mail:  
**Joanna N. Lopez**, *Regional Director of Community Service*  
mwblsa.regionalconvention@gmail.com

For additional information regarding Census 2010, please e-mail:  
**Marchant Martinelli**, *Regional Attorney General*  
mwblsa.regionalconvention@gmail.com

For additional information regarding Career Expo, please e-mail:  
**Troy Ezell**, *Regional Director of Corporate Relations*  
mwblsa.regionalconvention@gmail.com
BECOME A WEAVER . . .

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

Amendments to the Midwest Black Law Students Association’s Bylaws are due by January 15, 2010. All submissions will be discussed during Plenary Sessions. Plenary is the business section of the convention. The Regional Board will give officer reports and all schools must have a delegate in attendance.

REGIONAL BOARD ELECTIONS

Are you interested in running for a position on next year’s MWBLSA Executive Board? The advantages of joining the Executive Board are endless. Hone valuable leadership skills, get the inside scoop on events; enjoy exclusive networking opportunities and more! If you are interested in running for a position, please send a cover letter and resume to mwblsa.regionalconvention@gmail.com indicating your specific interest.

The following positions will be elected at the convention:

- **REGионаL Chair**
- **REGionaL VICE Chair**
- **REGionaL seCretary**
- **REGionaL Treasurer**
- **SUB-REGIONal DIRECTORS (4)**
- **REGionaL DIRECTor OF THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS Moot COURT Competition**
- **REGionaL DIRECTor OF THE THURGOOD MARSHALL MOCK TRIal CompetitiON**
- **REGionaL ATTORney GENERAL**
- **REGionaL DIRECTor OF PROGRAMMING**
- **REGionaL DIRECTor OF COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Join the 2010 – 2011 Executive Board and help shape the future of your region!

Elections will be held on Saturday, February 20th, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

You can make a difference!

For additional information regarding Plenary Business & Elections, please e-mail: Ollie M. Green, Regional Parliamentarian
mwblsa.regionalconvention@gmail.com

. . . Shape The Fabric Of The Future
**REGISTRATION FEES**

BLSA Member Competitor/Coach Registration - Completed by December 19, 2009 .... $75.00 / registrant  
(After December deadline competitors will be priced as all other BLSA Members below.)

BLSA Member Early Registration - Completed by December 19, 2009 ...................... $100.00 / registrant  
BLSA Member Regular Registration - Completed by January 15, 2010 .................... $125.00 / registrant  
BLSA Member Late Registration - Completed by January 31, 2010 ....................... $150.00 / registrant  

Non-Member Early Registration - Completed by December 19, 2009 ...................... $125.00 / registrant  
Non-Member Regular Registration - Completed by January 15, 2010 .................... $150.00 / registrant  
Non-Member Late Registration - Completed by January 31, 2010 ....................... $175.00 / registrant  

Undergraduate Regular Registration - Completed by January 31, 2010 ................. $30.00 / registrant  
Undergraduate Late Registration - Completed after January 31, 2010 ................. $40.00 / registrant  

Young Practitioner (practicing < 3 years) - Completed by January 31, 2010 .......... $150.00 / registrant  
Practitioner - Completed by January 31, 2010 ................................................. $200.00 / registrant  

On-Site Registration - Completed after January 31, 2010 .................................... $200.00 / registrant  

Silent Auction/Cocktail Hour/Awards Banquet ONLY (Saturday Evening) ........... $50.00 / attendee  
........................................ $350.00 / table  

Washburn A Mill Group Tour & Gallery Visit (Optional Saturday) ................. $10.00 / tourist  

**You will need the following information to register online:**

- First Name  
- Last Name  
- T-Shirt Size  
- E-mail Address  
- BLSA Chapter Name  
- Delegate Status  
- Scheduled Date of Arrival  
- Special Conditions (Dietary, Mobility, etc.)

**PLEASE REGISTER TODAY AT:**


Registration fees include all Acteva administration costs, meals, receptions, workshops, competitions and social events. ALL Registration Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE.
Midwest Black Law Students Association  
Regional Convention 2010  

February 17-21, 2010  
Minneapolis, MN  

REGISTRATION FORM  

- BLSA Member Competitor/Coach Registration - Postmarked by Dec. 19, 2009 $75.00 / registrant  
  (After December deadline competitors will be priced as all other BLSA Members below.)  
- BLSA Member Early Registration - Postmarked by December 19, 2009 $100.00 / registrant  
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- Washburn A Mill Group Tour & Gallery Visit (Optional Saturday) $10.00 / tourist  

Note: A separate form must be submitted for each registrant.  

I am registering as a:  
- Law Student Delegate  
- Law Student Non-Delegate  

Chapter/Organization:  

Name:  

T-Shirt Size:  

Address:  

Email:  

Phone:  

Special Dietary Needs:  

AMOUNT PAID:  

Please make check payable to:  
Midwest Region Black Law Students Assn  

Mail the completed form with check to:  
Midwest Regional BLSA Convention  
P.O. Box 11981, Chicago, IL 60611  

Need Additional Information Regarding Registration?  
Please Email:  
Jiais A. Forde, Regional Convention Coordinator  
mwblsa.regionalconvention@gmail.com  

REGISTRATION BY MAIL  
ALL Registration Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE.
Mill City Museum
704 South Second Street
Minneapolis, MN 55401
612-341-7555
www.millcitymuseum.org

Mill City Museum chronicles the flour milling industry that dominated world flour production for roughly a half-century and fueled the growth of Minneapolis, recognized across the nation and around the world as “Mill City.” Built within the ruins of a National Historic Landmark – the Washburn A Mill – the museum provides a multi-sensory, interactive journey. The story of flour milling and its impact on Minneapolis, the nation and the world comes to life through the eight-story Flour Tower and other interactive exhibits. Café on site.