

NEW!!

# NATIONAL OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION

Fall 2010



## EDUCATION IS KEY

ADVANCING THE VISUAL HEALTH OF MINORITY POPULATIONS

MINORITY VISION REPORT

## RENEW Your Membership Today!!

\*Special Tax Credit if you renew before January 1, 2011\*

Visit [www.nationaloptometricassociation.com](http://www.nationaloptometricassociation.com) for details.

### WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

**R**egion I held a DC/ MD Mixer sponsored by Alcon on September 26th in Greenbelt, MD with a special appearance by Dr. LaSheta David. The regional NY/NJ doctors meeting was on October 29th sponsored by HOYA. There was a Salus University NOSA Chapter and school administration meeting on November 1st.

Region II announced that the UMSL College of Optometry NOSA Chapter will be hosting its 2nd Annual Artistic Vision Talent Show on November 5th at 6pm (contact Vanessa Braimah, [ovbz@mail.umsl.edu](mailto:ovbz@mail.umsl.edu) for details).

Region IV recognizes Rien Broussard, a second year NOSA student from UHCO, who won the 2010 NAMME (National Association of Medical Minority Educator) Award.



Region V is celebrating the renewal of the Pacific University NOSA Chapter comprised of motivated 2nd and 3rd years.

THE NOA BOARD WOULD LIKE TO...

# Welcome



**Dr. Jeffery B. Ford**

The NOA Board is pleased to welcome our newest member! He is serving as our Region III Trustee.



Dr. Ford was born in Perry County, AL and is a 1998 graduate of UAB School of Optometry. He is currently President and CEO of Dr. Jeffery B. Ford & Associates, LLC in Montgomery and

Tuskegee, Alabama. While his interests include ocular disease, he also has conducted research on the "mutagenicity of herbicides and pesticides." He serves on the UAB School of Optometry Alumni Association Board, is President of the East Central Zone of the Alabama Optometric Association, is an active NOA member, and was a past NBEO examiner. Through all of his work, he continues to be a very influential figure in optometry. His region includes NC, SC, GA, AL, MS, AR, TN, FL, LA, and Puerto Rico. Please help us in welcoming him to our family and if you are in his region, you can contact him at [drjbford@aol.com](mailto:drjbford@aol.com).



## NOA Member Making Headlines...



**C**ynthia Heard, O.D. was recently published in the September 2010 edition of *Review of Optometry's Women in Optometry*. Her article entitled "Diversity in Optometry in an Imperfect World" examined how the face of Optometry has really failed to change over the last 40 years. In an America where we strive for equality, the goal has yet to be reached. Minorities still compose less than 10 percent of O.D.s, with African Americans being approximately three percent. Dr. Heard realizes that something must be done and that this is why the NOA is so vital to sustaining diversity in our profession. To read the full article, visit the link below:

[http://www.revoptom.com/cmsdocuments/2010/9/0910\\_wo2.pdf](http://www.revoptom.com/cmsdocuments/2010/9/0910_wo2.pdf)



Greater Washington DC Mixer

September 2010



### REMEMBERING DR. JOHN PEREZ...

## A Legendary Optometrist

Past President Dr. John Perez of Houston, Texas passed away on August 21, 2010. He was born and raised in Houston, TX on April 14, 1955. In 1982 he obtained his Doctorate in Optometry from the University of Houston College of Optometry. In Brownsville, TX he opened his first practice and met wife, Zenaida Garza. He served as the NOA president from 1995 to 1997 and was a member of the Texas Optometric Association since 1985. His dedication to the profession allowed him to contribute to the successful

passage of the Texas Legislative Bill allowing optometrists to use TPAs. He was a loving family man and was survived by wife, Zenaida Perez, daughter, Alyssa Renee Perez, father, John Perez Jr., and numerous brothers, nephews and nieces. Dr. Perez will greatly be missed.



“... a forward thinking friend with a passion for perfection in his family and personal devotions.”

Dr. Philip Aitsebaomo  
Trustee at Large/ CE Division