ABOUT THE GALA

This year the Africa-America Institute (AAI) celebrates its 70th year of enriching the social fabric of humanity by connecting students and leaders across sectors, facilitating access to reliable information about Africa, and transforming the way we understand Africa and its worldwide diaspora. To mark this momentous milestone, AAI will be hosting our 70th Anniversary Gala – A celebration of our most prominent Alumni, including those who are currently sitting Heads of State, our historic programs, partners and future direction.

Since 1984, the AAI Awards Gala has been the most anticipated African-centered event in New York City. Held annually during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), the AAI Gala convenes dignitaries—Heads of State, diplomats, domestic, and international government officials—philanthropists, business leaders, journalists, and scholars for a night showcasing the success of Africa and its worldwide Diaspora (Global Africa).

Your generous support of the Annual Awards Gala supports AAI’s programs and initiatives including AAI Scholarships, School Services Program, Connecting the Diaspora Series and the State of Education on Africa Conference.

AAIAFRICA.ORG
ABOUT THE GALA

Featuring
H.E. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia
Alumnus of AAI’s Southern African Student Program

With Host
Bozoma Saint John
Hall of Fame Inducted Marketing Executive, Author, and Entrepreneur
ABOUT THE GALA

Honoring

Business Leadership Award
Debra Lee
BET CEO Emeritus, Author of "I AM DEBRA LEE" and founder of Leading Women Defined

Philanthropic Impact Award
The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
Accepted by Peter Laugharn, President and CEO
In 1953, Dr. Horace Mann Bond, the first Black president of Lincoln University, and Professor William Leo Hansberry, a pioneering Africanist at Howard University, joined Henrietta Van Noy of American University to establish AAI. Little did these three visionaries know that by creating AAI, they were launching on a journey that would forever transform relations between the United States and Africa. This year we celebrate their legacy and 70 years of enriching the social fabric of humanity by connecting students and leaders across sectors and facilitating access to reliable information about Africa - all with the purpose of transforming the way we understand Global Africa.

AAI’s dual program focus has always been on improving education in and about Africa. Since its founding in 1953, over 23,000 Africans have received scholarships and fellowships from AAI. These Africans are now an esteemed network of alumni, many of whom are leaders and influencers across public, private, and governmental sectors in Africa and globally. Included in this network are current Heads of State, H.E. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia; H.E. Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Côte d’Ivoire; H.E. Mohamed Bazoum, President of the Republic of Niger; and H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa. Many of AAI’s alumni have left an indelible imprint, including the late 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Wangari Mathaai, and the late Barack Obama, Sr.
SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Leadership Sponsor: $250,000

- Three Premier Tables of Eight
- Twenty-Four Premier Tickets
- Seating with a delegation from Country of Choice
- Photographs with the Honorees
- Prominent Listing in Journal and in-venue digital screen
- Prominent Branding on Step and Repeat and during Reception
- Inside front cover or opposite page Ad
- Opportunity to introduce Honoree or Presidential Fireside Chat (pending availability)
- Prominent Logo placement on AAI Website and across Digital Media.
- Recognition in the evening remarks by the Emcee/host
- Opportunity to provide marketing materials in gala gift bags
- Gift listed in AAI's annual report
- Receive VIP invitations to select AAI events in the U.S. and Africa
- Donor or company name posted on AAI’s online Wall of Donors at www.aaionline.org/donors
- Press release associated with the gift, in both U.S. and select African markets
- Profile on donor and gift listed in the AAI e-newsletter as part of a Featured Donor section
SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Higher Education Sponsor $150,000

- Two Premier Tables of eight
- Seating with a delegation from Country of Choice
- Photograph with the Honorees
- Opportunity to introduce honoree or presidential fireside chat (pending availability)
- Prominent Listing in Journal and in-venue digital screen
- Inside Back Cover Ad (or prominent)
- Prominent Logo placement on AAI Website and across Digital Media
- Opportunity to provide marketing materials in gala gift bags
- Gift listed in AAI's annual report
- Receive VIP invitations to select AAI events in the U.S. and Africa
- Donor or company name posted on AAI's online Wall of Donors at www.aaionline.org/donors
- Profile on donor and gift listed in the AAI e-newsletter as part of a Featured Donor section
SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Catalyst Sponsor: $100,000

- One Premier Table of Eight
- One additional Table of Eight
- Seating with a delegation from Country of Choice
- Photograph with the Honoree(s)
- Prominent Listing in Journal and in-venue digital screen
- Prominently placed full page Ad
- Opportunity to provide marketing materials in gala gift bags
- Gift listed in AAI’s annual report
- Receive VIP invitations to select AAI events in the U.S. and Africa for one year
- Donor or company name posted on AAI’s online Wall of Donors at www.aaionline.org/donors
- Profile on donor and gift listed in the AAI e-newsletter as part of a Featured Donor section

Innovation Sponsor: $50,000

- One Premier Table of Eight
- Seating with a delegation from Country of Choice
- Prominent Listing in Journal and in-venue digital screen
- Prominently placed full page Ad
- Gift listed in AAI’s annual report
- Receive VIP invitations to select AAI events in the U.S. and Africa for one year
- Donor or company name posted on AAI’s online Wall of Donors at www.aaionline.org/donors
- Donor and gift listed in the AAI e-newsletter as part of a Featured Donor section
SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Champion Sponsor: $25,000

- One Table of Eight
- Seating with a delegation from Country of Choice
- Prominent Listing in Journal and in-venue digital screen
- Full Page Journal Ad
- Gift listed in AAI’s annual report
- Donor or company name posted on AAI’s online Wall of Donors at www.aaionline.org/donors

Scholars Sponsor: $15,000

- One Table of Eight
- Seating with a delegation from an AU country
- Prominent Listing in Journal
- Half Page Journal Ad

Custom Sponsorship: $5,000

- Uniquely tailored visibility and benefit package
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Gala Tickets

- Single Gala Dinner Ticket with Premier Seating - $1,500
- Single Gala Dinner Ticket - $1,000

Journal Advertisements,
Due August 31st

- Full Page: $2,000  |  Half Page: $1,000

In-Venue Advertisements/Logo Rotation, Due September 10th

- Full Page: $2,000  |  Half Page: $1,000

Making a Gift

- To make a Gala table or ticket purchase please visit aaiafrica.org
- Please make checks, corporate matches or other gifts payable to:
  The Africa-America Institute
  Mail Code: 7967
  P.O. Box 7247
  Philadelphia, PA 19170-0001

- For international gifts, please contact Jourden Warren to receive wiring instructions at Tel: +1 (646) 645 7286
- All gifts are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by U.S. law

For more information about AAI, our Annual Awards Gala and tailored sponsorship opportunities please contact AAI’s Chief of Strategic Partnerships and Engagement, Jourden Warren, at: jwarren@aaionline.org or +1 (646) 645 7286
AAI PROGRAMS

School Services Program

AAI’s School Services Program is designed to support education districts and schools in meeting the dual challenges of eliminating: the harmful K-12 educational practice of introducing students to Africa solely through the lens of European domination (enslavement and colonization); and the persistence of poor educational outcomes, particularly among black students.

In 2020, AAI re-committed significant resources to the Schools Services Program, initially launched in the late 1960s, by adding a greater emphasis on skilled pedagogy and student academic achievement to its principal goals. With the support of the Skillman Foundation, the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation, Kresge Foundation, Ford Foundation, the Ballmer Group, Open Society Foundations and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, AAI has successfully implemented our program across a number of schools including, the University Prep Schools, the Walt Whitman Elementary School and the School at Marygrove. Additionally, AAI has expanded the program into the afterschool space with a partnership with Healthy Kidz supporting students from various geographic areas and from public, charter, and private schools in Detroit. In 2023, AAI is continuing to expand our School Services Program with new partnerships across Southeast Michigan and New York.
AAI PROGRAMS

State of Education on Africa Conferences

Our annual SOE conference is a space for learning and dialogue between students, parents, teachers, leaders, and innovators interested in transforming K-12 education by infusing it with scholarly and unbiased knowledge about Africa and the worldwide Diaspora through effective teaching that supports student academic achievement. Each year, AAI invites scholars and educators to share their expertise through virtual or in-person speaker sessions. Past conference themes have included Africa, the Global Climate Crisis, and Reparations, Teaching Africa in the World and African Emergence.

The Jim Ovia Foundation Leaders Scholarship

The Jim Ovia Foundation Leaders Scholarship (JOFLS) is part of the Africa-America Institute’s (AAI) endeavor to educate and retain the talent of Africa’s top future leaders and scholars. Established in 2018, with the support of the Jim Ovia Foundation, the JOFLS is awarded to high-performing students from underrepresented backgrounds across Africa. Recipients are awarded a tuition-free, world class education at participating partner universities, Ashesi University in Ghana, and Covenant University in Nigeria.

In its fifth year, the program continues to impact the lives of Africa’s youngest and brightest scholars. With an initial grant of $2 million, the scholarship program currently supports thirty-five students from across Africa, including Kenya, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Ghana, Cameroon and Nigeria.
AAI PROGRAMS

Alumni Outreach Initiative

The Alumni Outreach Initiative is part of our ongoing commitment to sustain and strengthen our network of over 23,000 alumni. Through convenes, public outreach and interviews, AAI showcases the positive impact of our alumni to inspire the next generation of African leaders.

African Diplomatic Orientation & Engagement Program

Endorsed by the Washington African Diplomatic Corps, the African Diplomatic Orientation & Engagement Program enables African Ambassadors an opportunity to learn from each other, government officials, and sectoral experts to maximize their impact as international representatives in the United States.

Reparations and Racial Healing

As part of the Global Circle for Reparations and Racial Healing, the Africa-America Institute continues its mission of serving as a bridge between Africa and the US to promote enlightened engagement on issues of common concern to Africa and its worldwide Diaspora. Under this program, AAI hosts global convenings including our Connecting the Diaspora Solon Dinner Series and the Advancing Justice: Reparations and Racial Healing Summit with the support of partners including The Africa Transitional Justice Legacy Fund (ATJLF), Global Black and the African Union Commission.

Thank you for your support!