

# Barack Obama Heads to Oval Office

30th Anniversary  
Special Edition

Volume 30  
Issue 11.08

Technology Plan | Page 12



## National Vote for The Ages Propels First African-American to Leader of Free World

Presidential Campaign the Most Effective in Embracing Technology and Multimedia Strategies

**WASHINGTON**—The “Obama Revolution” as stated by POLITICO.com may best be described as “...a moment so powerful and so obvious that its symbolism needs no commentary.” To say those who are active participants in, or are familiar with the digital revolution were impressed would be an understatement. Virtually, a flawlessly executed presidential campaign has culminated in an epic event. The campaign unleashed every weapon in its high-tech arsenal from mass texting, ring tones, blogs, multi-lingual phone banks, social technology networks and mobile technologies linking supporters, pundits, and grass-roots operatives to staffers on the ground in every corner of America.

Supporters from coast to coast launched viral Internet guerilla marketing campaigns which included, but was not limited to, online ringtone mashups of speeches, tricked-up photo galleries, music videos, and comical skits laced with satirical and promotional overtones.

The Obama Campaign’s war chest kept growing at unprecedented rates as a direct result of hourly barrages of emails, text messages, online peer-to-peer endorsements and online contributions. Record fundraising efforts yielded close to \$800 million year to date. The bar has been raised for *Digerati* and Presidential hopefuls for 2012.

# bdpa today

Washington, D.C. Edition

November 2008

## America Welcomes Its Next First Family



**Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama and his family arrive on stage for his historic election night victory rally at Grant Park on November 4, 2008 in Chicago, Illinois. Americans emphatically elected Obama as their first black president in a transformational election which will reshape US politics and the US role on the world stage.**

Photo credit: EMMANUEL DUNAND/AFP/Getty Images

### National Capital Region Braces For Unprecedented Inaugural Events

**WASHINGTON, DC**—NBDPA, trade associations and other NGOs are finalizing plans for local and regional inaugural events. According to Police Chief Cathy Lanier on a recent local news talk show, because of President-Elect Obama’s popularity, the District is expecting record-sized crowds and significant road closures. She expects to add close to 5000 police officers with other law enforcement support from other U.S. jurisdictions. A Joint Operations Center already staffed by military and law enforcement personnel will simulate and run exercises prior to inaugural events on January 20, 2009. BDPA members are encouraged to coordinate inaugural events with local chapters. To join or sponsor a BDPA event, contact our National office at **1.800.727.BDPA (2372)** or visit: [www.bdpa-dc.org](http://www.bdpa-dc.org)

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Celebrating 30 Years of Service

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Serving the District of Columbia and surrounding communities for over 25 years, Joint Educational Facilities (JEF) is an all-volunteer non-profit community-based organization providing instruction, research, and development guidance to Washington, D.C. area middle and senior high school students. Topics in Advanced Computing Sciences, Contemporary Mathematics, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), High-Performance Computing (HPC), Intelligent Technologies, and Robotics are offered. Parent-Student teams are encouraged to enroll this Fall or next Winter and participate on-line via the Internet, in the lab, or during any JEF event.



Now accepting enrollments from Junior and High School students for Winter and Spring 2009 sessions. For more information, call (202) 584-1898 to register as a student. Instructor-mentor, parent-student teams, JEF scholarships and internships with JEF also are available.

**Contact: Dr. Jesse Bemley**  
**(202) 584-1898**  
**[www.jef.org](http://www.jef.org)**

2528 Naylor Road, SE., T-3  
Washington, DC 20020

**JEF** | COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN (CFC) Number: **#40978**  
**JEF** | **UNITED WAY** Campaign: Write-Ins



# *Greetings*

*Washington, DC Chapter*

*Black Data Processing Associates*

*30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala and Awards Banquet*

November 12, 2008

As Mayor of the District of Columbia, it is my pleasure to extend greetings to the Washington, DC Chapter, Black Data Processing Associates, on the occasion of your 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala and Awards Banquet.



This event provides an opportunity to discuss issues of concern in the computer science and technology field. As you take this opportunity to reflect on your past accomplishments, and honor Norman Mays, Founder and Earl A. Pace, Jr. Co-Founder, we look forward to your continued service to the community.

On behalf of the residents of the District of Columbia, you have my best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable event.

Adrian M. Fenty  
Mayor, District of Columbia

# Welcome 'Class of 2020'

Tomorrow's Software Engineers and Interns will continue to deliver high performance computing solutions to global customers with emerging science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) requirements. This year's BDPA HSCC finalists helped raise the bar for them.



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11.12.08 – Growing *IT* Special Interest Groups



On Wednesday, November 12, 2008 BDPA-DC will host its final professional networking event of the year. Our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reception and HSCC Awards Banquet will be held at the Washington Navy Yard in the Conference and Catering Center. Participating BDPA members, guests, and community leaders will continue to develop industry-specific Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and neighborhood Chapter Interest Groups (CIGs) to expand committee services and chapter programs to emerging communities in our region.

BDPA-DC SIG overtones include growth areas such as High Performance Computing, Modeling & Simulation, Intelligent Transportation Systems, Robotics, Web 2.0 technologies, or related computational ontologies. BDPA-DC CIGs form within the National Capital Region to provide emerging technology support services to Anne Arundel, Charles, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties in Maryland. To schedule a BDPA CIG event near you, visit our website at [www.bdpa-dc.org](http://www.bdpa-dc.org) for meeting and event locations or call us at 800.727.BDPA (2372).



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**BDPA**, formerly known as Black Data Processing Associates, was founded in 1975 to promote professional growth and technical development for those in or entering information technology (IT) oriented fields of interest and related industries. BDPA Chapters publish quarterly or monthly newsletters. For newsletter or web portal advertising rates, publication schedules, online calendars, and e-newsletters, contact regional or local BDPA Chapters by visiting [www.bdpa.org](http://www.bdpa.org) or by calling **1.800.727.2372 (BDPA)**. **bdpatoday** (Washington, D.C. Chapter Edition) is published by the Washington, D.C. Chapter's Communications Committee, mailed to BDPA-DC Chapter members, BDPA corporate sponsors and electronically delivered to BDPA Chapters and Chapter Interest Groups (CIGs) as a benefit of membership. First Class and Periodicals postage paid at Washington, D.C. and additional mailing offices. Unless otherwise noted by own copyright, art and graphics ©BDPA-DC, ©Corbis, ©Getty Images, & ©JupiterImages<sup>TM</sup>. White House photo credit on this month's cover page, Susan Sterner. **bdpatoday** is available for immediate online publishing of ICT industry, chapter news, and community IT events. Send current articles, chapter or community STEM events and images to: [info@bdpatoday.org](mailto:info@bdpatoday.org). Use chapter Groupsite calendars to review local news, events, advertising and sponsorship deadlines.

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**President-Elect Obama and "Technology Caucus 2.0"**  
**New House and Senate Seats for 111<sup>th</sup> Congress Affect Tech Caucuses**

**Washington, D.C.**—With the 2008 general election captured and written in U.S. history books, the domino effect of 'Musical Chairs' and 'King of the Hill' in the same venue will continue through normally scheduled lame-duck sessions. At press time, the unusual process of confirming key nominees prior to Inauguration Day also is being considered.

**To The Victor Go The Spoils**

Ever since the early 1800's when a new administration came to power, incumbents were discharged and new appointments to the President's Cabinet, Congressional Committees, and Caucuses were made. Congressional Caucuses were formed by Members to provide a forum for issues or legislative agendas. For the new 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, several caucuses will exist in the House and their primary function is to draw attention to issues of importance to their membership. For BDPA, The House Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Caucus and the Congressional Internet Caucus remain on our list of priority engagements.


**The Technology Plan ("BDPA 2.0")**

Given the comprehensive Technology Plan promulgated by the Obama-Biden Campaign (page 12), BDPA Chapters and their respective representatives will cultivate stronger relationships to support BDPA's 2009 legislative agenda and work more closely together to address shortages of qualified technical workers across national STEM disciplines.



**Regulatory Input From Chapters**

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) requires Federal agencies to follow certain steps for formal and informal rulemaking. Federal agencies have joined the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS), our government-wide online e-Rulemaking system

which extensively is used by Congress, agencies, lobbyists and advocacy groups to track and comment on proposed rules and regulations. The Internet will continue to help BDPA members participate in advocacy and online e-Rulemaking. 

**2009 Presidential Inaugural Balls**

- Arizona Presidential Inaugural Gala**
- Commander-In-Chief Ball**
- Constitution Ball**
- Democracy Ball**
- Freedom Ball**
- Garden State Inaugural Gala Ball**
- Hawaii State Society Inaugural Ball**
- Illinois Presidential Inaugural Gala**
- Independence Ball**
- Liberty Ball**
- Patriots Ball**
- South Carolina Inaugural Ball**
- Stars and Stripes Ball**

Inauguration Tickets are available from Congressional Representatives. BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter will post additional information for BDPA Members as soon as it becomes available. Join the Chapter's Newsletter Groupsites for the latest industry news and member updates:

**bdpatoday.org**

**bdpatoday**

**Presents:**

**BDPA Day On The 'Hill**

**Tuesday, January 20, 2009**  
**Inauguration Day**

**&**

**Wednesday, February 18, 2009**

Participating BDPA Chapters formally will present agenda items to the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. To add, modify, or recommend agenda items for consideration, contact local BDPA Chapter Government Relations Subcommittees or BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter.

[washingtondc@bdpa.org](mailto:washingtondc@bdpa.org)

[www.bdpa-dc.org](http://www.bdpa-dc.org)



[www.thecongressionalblackcaucus.com](http://www.thecongressionalblackcaucus.com)

# TeraGrid 2009 Conference



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**2008** in Austin, Texas  
during this year's  
Supercomputing Conference  
**SC08**. BDPA Austin will  
serve as our Host Chapter.

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The TeraGrid is an open scientific discovery infrastructure combining leadership class resources at eleven partner sites to create an integrated, persistent computational resource. Using high-performance network connections, the TeraGrid integrates high-performance computers, data resources and tools, and high-end experimental facilities around the country. How soon your community benefits from these resources directly depends on stakeholder levels of involvement.

Currently, TeraGrid resources include nearly a petaflop of computing capability and more than 30 petabytes of online and archival data storage, with rapid access and retrieval over high-performance networks. Researchers can also access more than 100 scientific data collections. With this combination of resources, the TeraGrid is the world's largest, most comprehensive distributed cyberinfrastructure for open scientific research. TeraGrid provides resources at eleven partner institutions: Indiana University (IU), Louisiana Optical

National Center for Atmospheric Research, National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA), National Institute for Computational Sciences, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC), Purdue University (PU), San Diego Supercomputer Center (SDSC), Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC), and University of Chicago/Argonne National Laboratory (ANL/UC).

Photo credit: Joint Educational Facilities (JEF)



**Las Vegas, NV**—This past June, JEF student participants from BDPA's Mid-Atlantic Region participated in advanced computing competitions during the third annual TeraGrid conference, which encourages young people to enter careers in high-performance computing (HPC), scientific visualization, and grid computing. Cadeal Chase [Baltimore], third from left, Bryan Bemley [Washington], fifth from left, stands with Frederick Smith, III [Northern Delaware], fourth from right and Dr. Jesse Bemley [JEF], second from right.

## HSCC \$cholarships

**Washington**—Last month, BDPA's Regional High School Computer Competition (HSCC) staff began expansion plans for 2009. A National HSCC will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina during the **National BDPA Technology Conference, August 5-8, 2009**. Final competition teams selected to represent the District, Northern Virginia, and Southern Maryland will be made up of four to six students each. However, remaining students are eligible to

participate in BDPA's annual Youth Technology Camp (YTC) during the Conference. Local teams have prepared to travel to the National BDPA Technology Conference. All students are allowed to participate in the Student Youth Technology Camp and all other planned student activities. The competition team will compete with other BDPA chapter teams throughout the United States developing web applications, mastering computer theory, conducting oral presentations and publishing their team's deliverables during written competition.

The top five (5) teams will win college scholarships, computer hardware and software. NBDPA likely will extend awards to the top six (6) teams in 2009 due to increased participation in BDPA Regional HSCC events. BDPA student members and HSCC students are afforded an opportunity to participate or attend next year's **TeraGrid '09 Conference** in Washington, D.C. and the **Supercomputing 2008 (SC08) Expo** this month in Austin, TX. Student memberships are available to interested students at \$15 for full time high school, community college, vocational school, 4-year college or university attendees.

Keynote  
Speaker



Clarence Wooten

Founder

&

Chief Business Architect

Collective

# 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala

Naval District Washington Conference Center

Washington Navy Yard

Wednesday, November 12th, 2008, 6 - 9 PM

*The Washington, D. C. Chapter of BDPA  
requests the pleasure of your company at our*

## *30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala and*

## *Awards Banquet*

*for the benefit of local*

*High School Computer Competition Programs  
on Wednesday evening, the twelfth of November*

*Two thousand and eight*

*"Stars & Stripes" Networking Reception at six o'clock*

*Cash Bar and Hors D'ouves*

*HSCC Awards Dinner served at seven o'clock*

*Stuffed Flounder - or - Apple Almond Chicken*

*Naval District Washington*

*Conference Center*

*Washington Navy Yard*

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*Donation \$55*

*BDPA Members \$30*

*Students \$22*

# BDPA IT Showcase

During recent Mid-Atlantic Region presentations at Bowie State University, undergraduate and high school students excelled at presenting advanced technical concepts to general audiences. White Papers were published for the National BDPA Technology Conference recently held in Atlanta, GA.

## Call for Papers

Regional **BDPA IT Showcase**  
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## WHO SHOULD ATTEND 2009's NATIONAL BDPA TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE?

RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER | AUGUST 5-8, 2009 | RALEIGH, NC

**Young Americans** are treated to the latest in Information Technology (IT.) Our Youth Technology Conference (YTC) has designed intense, IT related workshops and seminars to encourage and inspire youth to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math (STEM) careers with an information technology focus. High school teams from across the country annually compete for the High School Computer Competition (HSCC) National Title.

**High School Students** - Teams of high school students converge at the BDPA national conference to showcase their skills, teamwork, and creativity as they compete in an intensive 3-day competition. Others will be amazed at the talent and intellect of these students as they bond, compete, grow, learn and enjoy a healthy competitive environment laced with the most challenging technology available.

**Corporate Sponsors** have the opportunity to meet, greet, interview and network with some heavy-hitters in the IT field. Corporations also have the opportunity to showcase their products and services to thousands of members and attendees. This is an excellent opportunity to recruit qualified IT talent.

**Senior IT Executives** - BDPA has affiliated with the ITSMF to help achieve their objective. Senior information technology executives assist African American women and men in preparing for senior level positions.

**IT Professionals** have the opportunity to become engaged in "career possibilities". Our conferences offer professionals the opportunity to explore new IT horizons, to network with IT professionals, and to explore new employment opportunities with corporate sponsors.

**Entry Level IT** - Individuals just entering the IT field (or IT has entered your field) cannot afford to miss annual conferences. These annual meetings are "game-changing" experiences to help launch your career. Where else can you find professionals in virtually every concentration of IT? Where else can you find seminars and workshops specifically designed to enhance your skills and boost your career? This is the perfect opportunity to improve your IT career position. Whether you network and find a mentor, or attend a seminar that pushes you in a specific IT direction, everything about our conference will promote positive results in your career. Let's not forget about the Career Fair and Technology Expo, which provides an excellent opportunity to develop or continue to nurture relationships, distribute your updated resumes, and interview on the spot with many corporations that are looking for you!

**Parents** - Come join us! Share the fun and learning experiences with your children in our BDPA Host Chapter cities.

**Community-Based Organizations** - There is more to learn at our conferences. Technology is HERE! Don't let your organization fall behind because you were reluctant, or did not have the skills necessary to integrate your organization with technology. Many of our seminar tracks will help you better organize your CBO. Learn how to build your organization using technology, strategy, and team building.

**Entrepreneurs** - A "platinum" opportunity to network with other established firms and business partners in your market. Attending and presenting at some of our workshops are some of the most aggressive, successful entrepreneurs who are willing to share their experiences or opportunities with you.

Conference excerpts provided by *Electronic Village*

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## We Need a Revolution: Health and Technology (Part 2)

by Donald George | [dgeorge@mindspring.com](mailto:dgeorge@mindspring.com) | CEO, PRISM Communication Systems, Inc. | **BDPA Atlanta**



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### Health Information Technology: Tools to Revolutionize

So, as a core tool for our revolution, we need our own specialized information technology. Health IT is an emerging field in the intersection of medical informatics, public health informatics, biotechnology and healthcare delivery. Health IT will help integrate health services delivery and improve health care locally, regionally, and worldwide. Health IT is having a major impact on healthcare and capabilities that are enabling increasingly "smarter" information systems and devices that deliver new treatments, greater knowledge of genomics using bioinformatics (genetic information technology).

The application of information technology to healthcare is giving rise to a new discipline: information-based medicine. Conceptually, information-based medicine is a revolutionary mindset—it provides an integrated view of patient care across healthcare settings. It gives healthcare providers and stakeholders an integrated view of healthcare business processes, patient clinical information, medical images, genetic profiles, as well as molecular and genomic research efforts. The marriage of science and information technology within the practices of medicine and pharmaceutical research will vastly improve healthcare diagnosis, treatment and delivery.

### Soldiers in the Revolution

With the increasing adoption of information technology into the healthcare industry, a new group of IT professionals is emerging. These proponents and users of information based medicine are the true soldiers of the cause; they are the Health IT professionals that will use science, state-of-the-art technologies and best practices to develop comprehensive health solutions across the healthcare delivery continuum. Health IT Professionals will be in demand in this rapidly growing healthcare marketplace. The United States Department of Labor report on Job Market Economic growth released in 2007 projected that by 2015 the healthcare market will generate 4 out of every 10 jobs in United States, and biotechnology, biopharmaceuticals, and health informatics will create new positions for IT professionals that are needed to accelerate healthcare transformation and fuel the "Digital Healthcare Revolution".

In the next issue of **bdpatoday** | SOA: Technical Basis for the Revolution

BDPA IT Institute

# BDPA U

In 2006, BDPA entered into a partnership with Auburn University to provide an Academic Chair to the BDPA IT Institute and to utilize its Office of Distance Learning to globally deliver our IT Institute courseware and certification content.

Dr. Juan Gilbert is the Distinguished Associate Professor Fellow, Auburn University Center for Governmental Services where he directs the Human Centered Computing Lab and The BDPA IT Institute.

Industry icons such as Deloitte, EMC Corporation, Ernst & Young, and IBM have supported this program since its inception.

Juan Gilbert, Ph.D. T-SYS  
Human Centered Computing Lab  
The BDPA I.T. Institute



Contact Information:  
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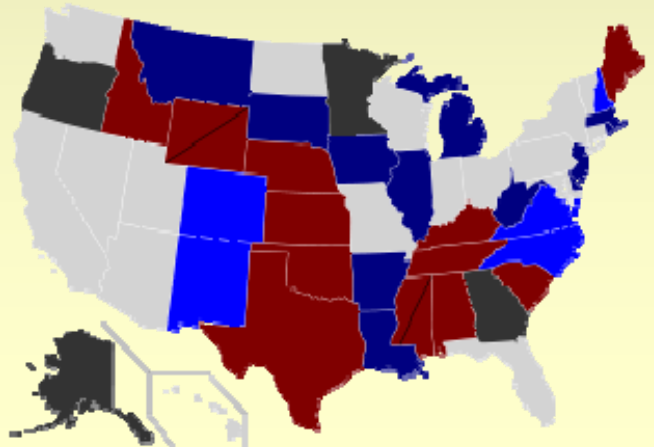
## View How America Voted

December 2008 Holiday Edition  
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and beyond.  
all aboard?



## Technology Awareness Program

A COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT & AWARENESS PROGRAM

A community technology development & awareness program TAP provides corporate sponsors with a turnkey program that enables them to advance the value of technology to African-American, Hispanic, and Native American communities *through three programs*: La Familia Technology Awareness Week; Native American Family Technology Journey; and Black Family Technology Awareness Week. The programs are comprised of content designed for audiences from kindergarten through 12th grade and includes their parents and extended families. TAP enables companies to augment their public image among minorities by extending their outreach efforts into those communities.



For more information call  
410-244-7101 or visit our websites!

Black Family Network  
[www.blackfamilynet.net](http://www.blackfamilynet.net)

LaFamilia Network  
[www.lafamilianet.net](http://www.lafamilianet.net)

Native American Family Network  
[www.firstpeoplesnet.net](http://www.firstpeoplesnet.net)



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# Science, Technology and Innovation for a New Generation

**WASHINGTON, DC**—President-Elect Obama and Vice President-Elect Biden's campaign published the following statement on technology outlining a three-point plan entitled: "**The Change We Need | Technology.**" This plan also may be used as the framework for formulating science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) initiatives in underserved domestic and foreign communities.

## The Problem

We need to connect citizens with each other to engage them more fully and directly in solving the problems that face us. We must use all available technologies and methods to open up the federal government, creating a new level of transparency to change the way business is conducted in Washington and giving Americans the chance to participate in government deliberations and decision-making in ways that were not possible only a few years ago.

**America risks being left behind in the global economy:** Revolutionary advances in information technology, biotechnology, nanotechnology and other fields are reshaping the global economy. Without renewed efforts, the United States risks losing leadership in science, technology and innovation. As a share of the Gross Domestic Product, American federal investment in the physical sciences and engineering research has dropped by half since 1970.

**Too many Americans are not prepared to participate in a 21st century economy:** A recent international study found that U.S. students perform lower on scientific assessments than students in 16 other economically developed nations, and lower than 20 economically developed nations in math performance. Only one-third of middle class physical science teachers are qualified to teach in that subject, and only one-half of middle school math sciences have educational background in that subject area.

## The Plan

### Ensure the Full and Free Exchange of Ideas through an Open Internet and Diverse Media Outlets

- **Protect the Openness of the Internet:** A key reason the Internet has been such a success is because it is the most open network in history. It needs to stay that way. Barack Obama strongly supports the principle of network neutrality to preserve the benefits of open competition on the Internet.
- **Encourage Diversity in Media Ownership:** Barack Obama believes that the nation's rules ensuring diversity of media ownership are critical to the public interest. Unfortunately, over the past several years, the Federal Communications Commission has promoted the concept of consolidation over diversity. As president, Obama will encourage diversity in the ownership of broadcast media, promote the development of new media outlets for expression of diverse viewpoints, and clarify the public interest obligations of broadcasters who occupy the nation's spectrum.

**Protect Our Children While Preserving the First Amendment:** We live in the most information-abundant age in history and the people who develop the skills to utilize its benefits are the people who will succeed in the 21st century. Obama values our First Amendment freedoms and our right to artistic expression and does not view regulation as the answer to these concerns. An Obama administration will give parents the tools and information they need to control what their children see on television and the Internet in ways fully consistent with the First Amendment. To further protect children online, Obama and Biden support tough penalties, increased enforcement resources and forensic tools for law enforcement, and collaboration between law enforcement and the private sector to identify and prosecute people who abuse the Internet to try to exploit children.

*Continued on next page*

***Continued from previous page***

- **Safeguard our Right to Privacy:** The open information platforms of the 21st century can also tempt institutions to violate the privacy of citizens. As president, Barack Obama will strengthen privacy protections for the digital age and will harness the power of technology to hold government and business accountable for violations of personal privacy.

**Create a Transparent and Connected Democracy**

- **Open Up Government to its Citizens:** The Bush Administration has been one of the most secretive, closed administrations in American history. Our nation's progress has been stifled by a system corrupted by millions of lobbying dollars contributed to political campaigns, the revolving door between government and industry, and privileged access to inside information—all of which have led to policies that favor the few against the public interest. An Obama presidency will use cutting-edge technologies to reverse this dynamic, creating a new level of transparency, accountability and participation for America's citizens.
- **Bring Government into the 21st Century:** Barack Obama and Joe Biden will use technology to reform government and improve the exchange of information between the federal government and citizens while ensuring the security of our networks. Obama and Biden believe in the American people and in their intelligence, expertise, and ability and willingness to give and to give back to make government work better. Obama will appoint the nation's first Chief Technology Officer (CTO) to ensure that our government and all its agencies have the right infrastructure, policies and services for the 21st century. The CTO will ensure the safety of our networks and will lead an interagency effort, working with chief technology and chief information officers of each of the federal agencies, to ensure that they use best-in-class technologies and share best practices.

**Deploy a Modern Communications Infrastructure**

- **Deploy Next-Generation Broadband:** Barack Obama believes that America should lead the world in broadband penetration and Internet access. As a country, we have ensured that every American has access to telephone service and electricity, regardless of economic status, and Obama will do likewise for broadband Internet access. Obama and Biden believe we can get true broadband to every community in America through a combination of reform of the Universal Service Fund, better use of the nation's wireless spectrum, promotion of next-generation facilities, technologies and applications, and new tax and loan incentives.

**Improve America's Competitiveness**

- **Promote American Businesses Abroad:** Barack Obama and Joe Biden support a trade policy that ensures our goods and services are treated fairly in foreign markets. President Bush has failed to address the fact that China has engaged in ongoing currency manipulation that undercuts US exports; that China fails to enforce U.S. copyrights and trademarks and that some of our competitors create regulatory and tax barriers to the delivery and sale of technology goods and services abroad. Barack Obama will fight for fair treatment of our companies abroad.
- **Invest in the Sciences:** Barack Obama and Joe Biden support doubling federal funding for basic research over 10 years, changing the posture of our federal government from being one of the most anti-science administrations in American history to one that embraces science and technology. This will foster home-grown innovation, help ensure the competitiveness of US technology-based businesses, and ensure that 21st century jobs can and will grow in America.
- **Invest in University-Based Research:** Barack Obama and Joe Biden strongly support expanding research initiatives at American colleges and universities. The U.S. faces a challenge in funding younger researchers. Obama and Biden will provide new research grants to the most outstanding early-career researchers in the country.
- **Make the R&D Tax Credit Permanent:** Barack Obama wants investments in a skilled research and development workforce and technology infrastructure to be supported here in America so that American workers and communities will benefit. Obama and Biden want to make the Research and Development tax credit permanent so that firms can rely on it when making decisions to

***Continued on page 17***

# Is your data working for you?

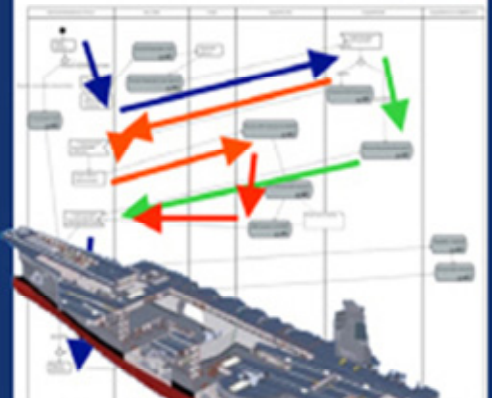
Infotek International, specializes in making data visually clear - turning mere data into actionable information by designing client data systems that are focused on improving performance.

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# Career Upgrade Connections

In 2009, BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter invites new members to grow with us for the next 30 years of professional development, and community outreach programs.

## Committees to Chair or Join:

- **Audit/Finance/Sales/Grants**  
Invest in our *trillion-dollar* industry
- **IT Programs/Chapter Events**  
Host *Interest Groups* and meetings
- **Membership/Services**  
Source *non-IT* members for growth
- **Government Relations/Advocacy**  
Track laws in our *high-tech* society
- **Communications + PR**  
Join local BDPA *multimedia* teams
- **Education/Training/Standards**  
Develop *courseware*, be a *Mentor*

## What To Look For in 2009:

- The new 111<sup>th</sup> Congress
- Inauguration of a new President
- Black Engineer of The Year Awards
- BDPA-Day-On-The-Hill
- ITSMF Symposium and Gala
- FOSE 2009
- Regional BDPA Golf Classic
- Regional HSCC Competition (Youth)
- Regional IT Showcase (Students)
- TeraGrid '09
- National BDPA Tech Conference
- National IT Showcase (Students)
- National HSCC Competition (Youth)
- Legislative Conference (CBCF/ALC)
- Prince George's Football Classic
- Supercomputing 2009 (SC09)
- 2009 BDPA-DC Awards Gala

[www.bdpa-dc.org](http://www.bdpa-dc.org)

Corporate sponsorships and member discounts are available by contacting the Washington, D.C. BDPA Chapter:  
[washingtondc@bdpa.org](mailto:washingtondc@bdpa.org)  
202.659.5367 — or — 703.627.8257

## SUPERCOMPUTING 2008 CONFERENCE PREVIEW

### SC08 Broader Engagement (BE) Program

SC08 is committed to broadening participation in the conference and to the engagement of individuals from around the globe, in groups and disciplines that traditionally have been underrepresented in high performance computing or at the SC Conference series. The breadth and depth of SC08 will provide unparalleled opportunities for learning about innovations in high performance computing, networking, storage and analysis. The Broader Engagement (BE) Program strives to identify and involve those individuals from underrepresented communities who have an interest in high performance computing.

### Mentorship Programs

The mentorship program that started last year at SC07 will continue at SC08. In close collaboration with the Education Program, student volunteers and SC exhibitors, BE is endeavoring to grow its mentorship program. The program plans to continue the formation of mentor/protégé pairs, and develop informal opportunities through coffee or lunch meetings with scientists and industry leaders to encourage networking bridges that benefit the participants involved in the program and hopefully beyond. JEF and BDPA-DC have additional information for local teams. Visit: [www.bdpa-dc.org](http://www.bdpa-dc.org)

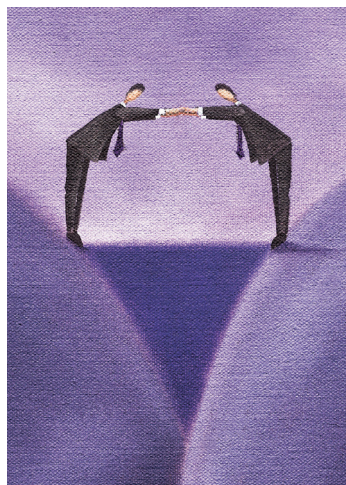
## An **A+** For Helping Hands with Technical Careers

**Educational institutions, training companies, not-for-profits such as BDPA and government-funded training organizations can improve services to constituencies by joining CompTIA.**

### IT Career Upgrades

CompTIA is the leading association representing the international technology community. Its goal is to provide a unified voice, global advocacy and leadership, and to advance industry growth through standards, professional competence, education and business solutions.

BDPA-DC will work with CompTIA in 2008 to make certification testing more accessible with sponsored and discounted student vouchers. This upgraded member service allows BDPA members to keep their own skill sets current with industry requirements. Advanced training and free vouchers for additional CompTIA certifications will be made available for BDPA student and full members.



### CompTIA Exam Vouchers for BDPA Instructors

Qualified BDPA members of E2C member schools who are training students in any of CompTIA's current certifications are eligible to receive a voucher for one of the following CompTIA certifications: **A+**, **Network+**, **i-Net+**, **Server+**, **Linux+**, **HTI+**, **RFID+**, **Security+** and **Project+**.

Obtaining a CompTIA certification adds to personal credentials and paves the way to more lucrative and challenging leadership positions. Top technology companies like Cisco, HP, IBM, Intel, Microsoft and Novell leverage

CompTIA certifications as electives or equivalents for their own certification tracks. BDPA members who achieve higher industry certifications with DoD security clearances attract growth industries to emerging communities, transfer knowledge to local schools while promoting economic development.



**November 15-21, 2008**  
**Austin Convention Center**  
**Austin, Texas**

[bdpa@sc08](mailto:bdpa@sc08)

Support Teams are forming for this year's high school and college student participation during featured technology expos, IT conferences, IT Showcase and BDPA HSCC events. Parents and sponsors are invited to participate and assist area students with research concepts and development projects. Contact the JEF Center at: **202.584.1898**




**bdpa career center now available online; also visit:**  
<http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/BDPA-Jobs/>



BDPA's career center has an updated resume databank to post resumes and career vitae for exposure to the best companies in the world for Information Communication Technology (ICT) positions at all levels. We have an excellent search facility in the form of a Job Bank that allows one to search for the perfect position for matching a specific skill set.

Your career center has support services from career coaches that will assist users in getting careers back on track or reaching the next levels of advancement. These support services also extend to salary surveys thus allowing users to see how competitive a salary is in relation to other parts of the country and to other ICT positions. These services allow users to view the emerging positions within related industries and connect with resources for a full job outlook.

This career center also supports ICT college students with a Student Internship Program to include resources to assist first-time workforce entrants in securing desired college internships over the summer or any time during the course of a school year. BDPA should be one of the first steps in fulfilling all of your career goals and meeting ICT professionals in every industry sector.

Our next opportunity to network and interface with business leaders and hiring managers supporting BDPA and BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter, is **November 12, 2008** at Washington Navy Yard, for the Chapter's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception and Awards Banquet. Additional information is available by visiting "Events" online: [www.bdpa-dc.org](http://www.bdpa-dc.org). 

Send IT job announcements to: [info@bdpatoday.org](mailto:info@bdpatoday.org)

### Information Management Specialists

Provide highly technical expertise in the development and use of Cognos, DB2, Oracle, PeopleSoft, SAP, or Teradata

### Washington, D.C. Position Prerequisites:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen with a minimum of 5 years IT experience
- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent years of working experience
- Candidates with DHS ICE or DoD Secret Clearances preferred (otherwise, candidate must successfully obtain a DHS or DoD Clearance)
- Strong communications skills
- Experience in working directly with customers

Working knowledge of Java/J2EE and CMM/CMMI practices are a plus  
Ability to develop software development life cycle documentation (e.g., Data Management Plans; System Design Documents, etc.) Send resumes with a Cover Letter to: [resumes@pinnacle-careers.com](mailto:resumes@pinnacle-careers.com)



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### Government Communications Systems Division

Harris is headquartered in the U.S. and has sales and service facilities in more than 150 countries. Customers around the globe want to be confident that their unique communications needs are understood and supported by people who are within easy reach. As part of Harris' commitment to being a leader in the worldwide communications market, we have continued to strengthen our international position by establishing a strong local presence in each of the markets we serve. Career opportunities are available at the following Satellite Locations: **Alexandria VA, Annapolis Junction MD, Colorado Springs CO, Long Beach CA, and Omaha NE.** Contact a BDPA engagement partner today.

Ms. Heather Gagnier | BDPA Engagement Partner  
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[hgagnier@harris.com](mailto:hgagnier@harris.com)  
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BDPA-DC Engagement Partner: **Herman Scott**



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invest in domestic R&D over multi-year timeframes.

- **Ensure Competitive Markets:** Barack Obama believes we need a business and regulatory landscape in which entrepreneurs and small businesses can thrive, start-ups can launch, and all enterprises can compete effectively while investors and consumers are protected against bad actors that cross the line. As president, Obama and Biden will reinvigorate antitrust enforcement, which is how we ensure that capitalism works for consumers.
- **Protect American Intellectual Property Abroad:** The Motion Picture Association of America estimates that in 2005, more than nine of every 10 DVDs sold in China were illegal copies. The U.S. Trade Representative said 80 percent of all counterfeit products seized at U.S. borders still come from China. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will work to ensure intellectual property is protected in foreign markets, and promote greater cooperation on international standards that allow our technologies to compete everywhere.
- **Protect American Intellectual Property at Home:** Intellectual property is to the digital age what physical goods were to the industrial age. Barack Obama believes we need to update and reform our copyright and patent systems to promote civic discourse, innovation and investment while ensuring that intellectual property owners are fairly treated.
- **Reform the Patent System:** A system that produces timely, high-quality patents is essential for global competitiveness in the 21st century. By improving predictability and clarity in our patent system, we will help foster an environment that encourages innovation. Giving the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) the resources to improve patent quality and opening up the patent process to citizen review will reduce the uncertainty and wasteful litigation that is currently a significant drag on innovation. As president, Barack Obama will ensure that our patent laws protect legitimate rights while not stifling innovation and collaboration.
- **Restore Scientific Integrity to the White House:** Good policy in Washington depends on sound advice from the nation's scientists and engineers and decision-making based on the needs of all Americans. Obama and Biden will restore the basic principle that government decisions should be based on the best-available, scientifically-valid evidence and not on the ideological predispositions of agency officials or political appointees.

### **Prepare All our Children for the 21st century economy**

- **Make Math and Science Education a National Priority:** Obama and Biden will recruit math and science degree graduates to the teaching profession and will support efforts to help these teachers learn from professionals in the field. He will also work to ensure that all children have access to a strong science curriculum at all grade levels.
- **Improve and Prioritize Science Assessments:** Science assessments need to do more than test facts. They need to measure a student's higher order thinking skills including inference, logic, data analysis, interpretation, forming questions and communication. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will work with governors and educators to ensure that state assessments measure these skills.
- **Address the Dropout Crisis:** Obama and Biden will address the dropout crisis by passing his legislation to provide funding to school districts to invest in intervention strategies in middle school - strategies such as personal academic plans, teaching teams, parent involvement, mentoring, intensive reading and math instruction, and extended learning time.
- **Pinpoint College Aid for Math and Science Students:** In 2007, Barack Obama introduced the National STEM Scholarship Database Act, which would launch an innovative online database to coordinate information on financial aid opportunities available in science and technology fields through the federal government and public or private resources. Access to this information is especially crucial for first generation college students who might otherwise receive limited guidance in how to successfully pursue, and finance, a degree in

**Continued next page**

science or technology.

- **Increase Science and Math Graduates:** Obama and Biden will improve science and math education in K through 12, to prepare more students for these studies in college. They will work to increase our number of science and engineering graduates and encourage undergraduates studying math and science to pursue graduate studies. They will also work to increase the representation of minorities and women in the science and technology pipeline, tapping the diversity of America to meet the increasing demand for a skilled workforce. The challenges of the 21st century can only be met by combining many skills from people with many backgrounds. America's diversity is a clear competitive advantage if we use it.

### Prepare Adults for a Changing Economy

- **Lifelong Retraining:** Obama and Biden will reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act, and increase resources for community colleges and lifelong learning initiatives to ensure our citizens can continue to gain new skills throughout their lifetimes. Obama and Biden will also modernize and expand the existing system of trade adjustment assistance to include workers hurt by changing trade patterns. They will also create flexible education accounts that workers can use to retrain. And they will expand and fully fund apprenticeship programs to help workers get credentials and skills in crafts that reward that investment with a middle class income and benefits.
- **Build a Reliable Safety Net:** Obama and Biden will work, through his proposals on portable health care and retirement savings accounts and expanding unemployment insurance, for programs that will help Americans facing job transitions in a fierce global economy.

### Employ Science, Technology and Innovation to Solve Our Nation's Most Pressing Problems

The 21st century tools of technology and telecommunications have unleashed the forces of globalization on a previously unimagined scale. They have "flattened" communications and labor markets and have contributed to a period of unprecedented innovation, making us more productive, connected global citizens. By maximizing the power of technology, we can strengthen the quality and affordability of our health care, advance climate-friendly energy development and deployment, improve education throughout the country, and ensure that America remains the world's leader in technology.

- **Lower Health Care Costs by Investing in Electronic Information Technology Systems:** A key feature of Barack Obama and Joe Biden's health care plan is the use of health information technology to lower the cost of health care. Most medical records are still stored on paper, which makes them difficult to use to coordinate care, measure quality, or reduce medical errors. Processing paper claims also costs twice as much as processing electronic claims. Barack Obama and Joe Biden will invest \$10 billion a year over the next five years to move the U.S. health care system to broad adoption of standards-based electronic health information systems, including electronic health records.
- **Invest in Climate-Friendly Energy Development and Deployment:** Barack Obama knows that we need to rely on technology to help solve the critical energy and environmental problems facing this country. As he announced in his energy policy, Barack Obama and Joe Biden will invest \$150 billion over the next ten years to enable American engineers, scientists and entrepreneurs to advance the next generation of biofuels and fuel infrastructure, accelerate the commercialization of plug-in hybrids, promote development of commercial-scale renewable energy, and begin the transition to a new digital electricity grid. This investment will transform the economy and create 5 million new jobs.
- **Modernize Public Safety Networks:** Barack Obama is committed to improving the information and communications technology used to support public safety from the antiquated 1970s and 1980s-based technology currently used by agencies around the country to a modern system that will enable us to respond to emergencies and natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina. Obama and Biden also will implement policies to advance stem cell research and expand biomedical research fields to improve the efficiency of that research by improving coordination both within government and across government/private/non-profit partnerships.



Visit  
DTV.gov

# THE DIGITAL TV TRANSITION

## What You Need To Know About DTV



### What Is The Digital TV (DTV) Transition?

Currently, many over-the-air stations are broadcasting in both analog and digital TV formats. After February 17, 2009, full – power TV stations will broadcast only in digital. The DTV transition will affect those who watch free over-the-air television (through a rooftop antenna or “rabbit ears”). If you watch over-the-air programs on an analog TV, you must take action before February 17, 2009.

### Why Are Broadcast Stations Switching to Digital?

Federal law requires the switch, which will free up the airwaves for police, fire, and emergency rescue communications, allow broadcasters to offer programming with better picture and sound quality and offer more programming choices, and allow for advanced wireless services for consumers.

### What Should I Do to Be Ready?

You have three choices:

- 1** Connect your analog TV to a digital-to-analog converter box. Digital-to-analog converter boxes are in stores and have a one-time cost of \$40-\$70. To help you pay for the boxes, the U.S. Government is offering two \$40 coupons per household. (Please note that these coupons will expire 90 days after mailing). For more information on the coupons, visit [www.DTV2009.gov](http://www.DTV2009.gov), or call 1-888-388-2009 (voice) or 1-877-530-2634 (TTY). Plus, you should not need a new antenna if you get good quality reception on analog channels 2-51 with your existing antenna. **Or**
- 2** Buy a digital television (a TV with a built-in digital tuner). You do not need a High Definition TV (HDTV) to watch digital broadcast television. You only need a digital TV (or an analog TV connected to a digital-to-analog converter box). Plus, you should not need a new antenna if you get good quality reception on analog channels 2-51 with your existing antenna. **Or**
- 3** Subscribe to a paid TV service. If your TV set receives local broadcast stations through a paid provider such as cable or satellite TV, it is already prepared for the DTV transition. Cable companies are not required to transition or switch any of their channels to digital. However, if you have an analog TV that does not receive local broadcast stations through your paid provider, you will need a digital-to-analog converter box to watch digital broadcasts on that TV.

**For More Information:**

1-888-CALL-FCC (Voice)

DTV.gov

1-888-TELL-FCC (TTY)

- Annual Holiday Issue
- SC08 Review
- TeraGrid 2009 Preview
- 2009 HSCC Calendar of Events
- 2008 General Election Results

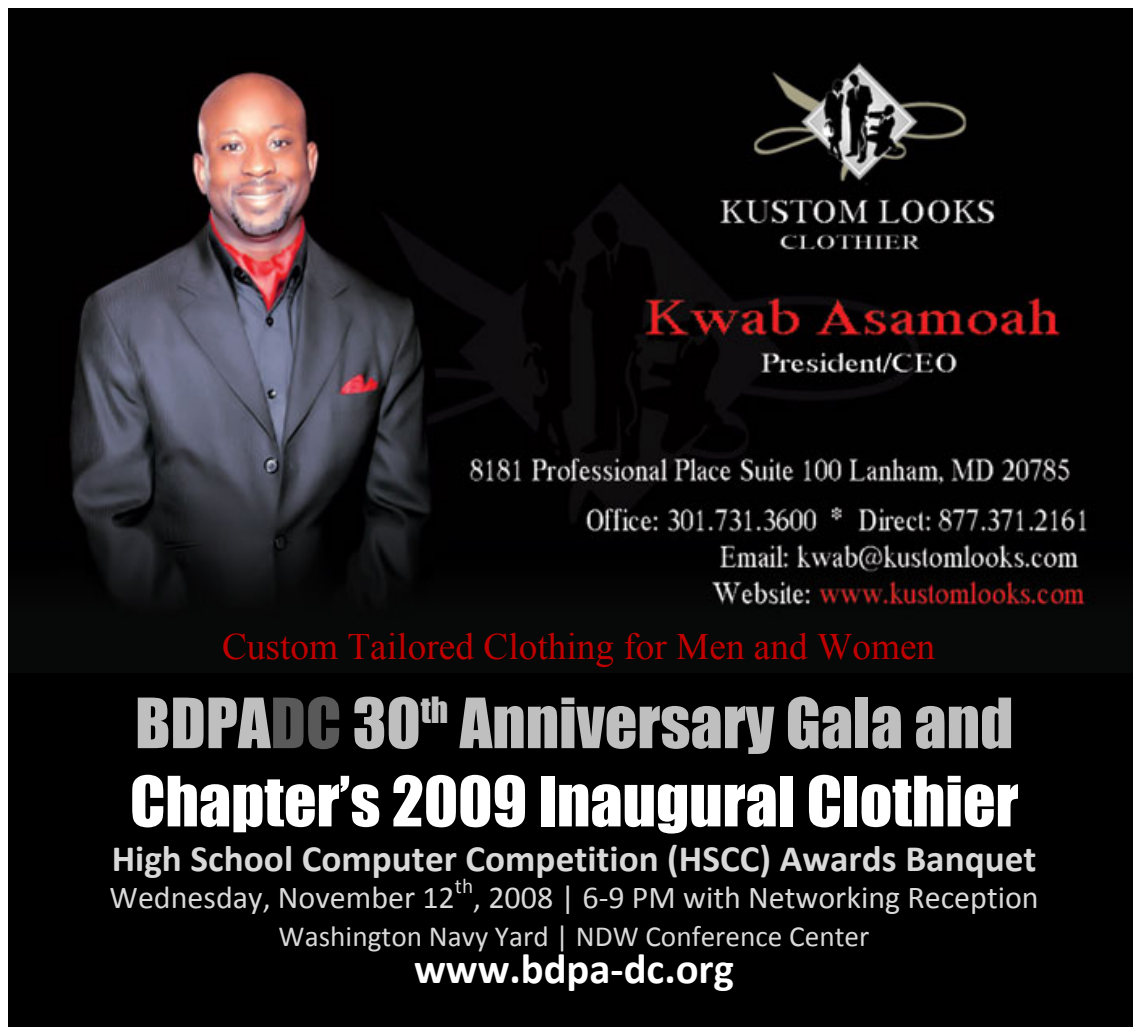
Your next issue features articles from industry trade shows, Capitol Hill reviews and NBDPA announcements. Scholarships, grants, and special 2009 intern announcements also are posted. Winter 2009 event information is updated and made available to BDPA Members. To join a chapter, or BDPA committee, call: 1.800.727. BDPA (2372) or visit:


[www.bdpa-dc.org](http://www.bdpa-dc.org)

- Annual Memberships: **\$75**
- Student Memberships: **\$15**
- Gala Ticket Donations: **\$55**
- **Member** Gala Tickets: **\$30**
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**BDPADC 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala and  
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