Opening doors to the future

The 44th Annual NUSA Conference will be held in Palm Springs, California, May 15-18, 2019 with the exciting theme, “Opening Doors to the Future”. Civic leaders, convention and visitor professionals, the Aqua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, neighborhood leaders and the City of Palm Springs are working together to help make the 2019 NUSA Conference a lasting memory for all who join us!

Come prepared to hear incredible keynote speakers, participate in architectural, environmental and historical tours and be educated and inspired during informative workshops. Hundreds of volunteers from Palm Springs are looking forward to welcoming NUSA to showcase the hospitality, climate, mountains, resorts, architecture and culture our city is known world-wide for.

Palm Springs is a city of diverse, dedicated, involved neighborhoods and neighbors who welcome more than five million visitors to the city each year. We look forward to conference attendees experiencing everything that makes Palm Springs such a wonderful destination for so many around the world.

Our goal is to make this the most convenient conference you will attend this year, with free airport shuttles to the Renaissance and Hilton Palm Springs hotels, located in downtown Palm Springs. Most of the activities will take place within a few blocks of one another at the Palm Springs Convention Center, the Renaissance and Hilton Palm Springs hotels and the Aqua Caliente Spa Casino.

The Early Bird Registration fee of $225 ends on March 31, 2019 so be sure to plan ahead and register early.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Palm Springs!

Lisa Middleton
Palm Springs City Council

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Workshop tracks

Sixty (60) educational workshops will be offered this year, under the following eight (8) conference tracks:

- Diversity, Youth and Aging
- Fundraising, Grants and Government Programs
- Neighborhood Leadership
- Neighbors, USA (NUSA)
- Prepared Community – Fire, Flood, Hurricane and Earthquakes
- Social Action Close to Home
- Sustainable – Healthy Neighborhoods
- Technology

A letter from your new president

First, let me start by saying what an honor and privilege it is to serve as President of Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) during the 2018-19 fiscal year. I am humbled by the vote of confidence my peers on the NUSA Board of Directors have bestowed upon me by giving me the opportunity to lead our passionate, dedicated and talented team!

In October 2018, the NUSA Board of Directors held the fall board meeting in Palm Springs, California to get planning underway for the upcoming May 2019 NUSA conference. I am excited to say the 2019 NUSA conference will be a memorable and exciting experience! Conference attendees will encounter a unique Palm Springs community with enchanting scenery, beautiful weather and an unforgettable, enriched history!

For 44 years, NUSA has served as the number one neighborhood advocacy group in the country for grassroots movements and initiatives. The 44th Annual NUSA Conference will continue to honor tradition by celebrating neighborhoods, pushing grassroots agendas to the forefront of conversations across the country, reaffirming the importance of education for grassroots initiatives and encouraging partnerships with other institutions to represent a collaborative spirit to effect change in communities across the United States of America.

As the President of NUSA, I pledge to serve the organization and its members to the best of my ability and will continue to work alongside each member of the NUSA family to fulfill NUSA’s mission to provide opportunities for diverse people and organizations to share their ideas, values, and experiences to build stronger communities.

As we work to prepare for a remarkable 2019 NUSA conference, should you have any questions, concerns or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at: president@nusa.org.

Sincerely yours in service & partnership,

Monique M. Coleman, MPA, MCRP
2018-19 NUSA President
NUSA looks for new faces to join their board

Are you ready to make a difference by helping to build stronger, healthier and safer neighborhoods and communities? If so, please consider becoming a NUSA board member!

Requirements to run for the NUSA board

Prospective candidates must:

- Be a member in good standing of NUSA;
- Be a member of the NUSA organization at least one year prior to becoming a candidate;
- Attend a Running for the NUSA Board workshop during a previous NUSA Conference;
- Attend at least one previous NUSA conference within the last three years;
- Take the Running for the NUSA Board workshops being offered at the 2019 NUSA Conference. This applies to future prospective candidates, for terms starting in 2020 and after;
- Be able to attend meetings of the NUSA board at their own expense; and
- Be able to attend the opening breakfast, Saturday business meeting and closing luncheon during the annual NUSA conference.

Click [here](#) to apply!

NOTE: To ensure a regional balance and an equitable representation of all community interests, there shall not exceed more than two (2) current board members serving from the same city and NO more than three (3) from the same state.

Volunteer your experiences, skills and talents to benefit others

NUSA Board Members have the opportunity and responsibility to serve on a variety of committees, including:

- Awards Program Committee
- Board Development Committee
- Membership Service Committee
- Program Development Committee
- Public Affairs Committee
- Bylaws and Rules Committee
- Resource Development Committee

For information about the additional duties of NUSA Board Members or to apply for run this year, please visit: [nusa.org](http://nusa.org).

Applications must be received by Feb. 16, 2019.

Should you have any additional questions or need more information, please contact the Board Development Committee via email at: [boarddevelopment@nusa.org](mailto:boarddevelopment@nusa.org)

2019 Award categories

Neighborhood of the Year (NOTY) Award

2019 celebrates the 44th year that NUSA will recognize the outstanding work of neighborhood organizations across the United States for their work toward improving the quality of life in their communities. If your organization completed a neighborhood improvement project or activity in 2018, you are invited to enter the 2019 Neighborhood of the Year Award competition.

Awards are given in the following three categories:

- **Physical Revitalization/Beautification (Single Neighborhood)**
  Projects that focus on physical aspects of improving your neighborhood such as parks, lighting, litter control, traffic management, housing improvements, green spaces and business district enhancements.

- **Social Revitalization/Neighborliness (Single Neighborhood)**
  Projects focusing on the social or cultural aspects of a neighborhood like safety, youth and/or senior programs, and activities that make neighbors feel connected and foster neighbors working together like an ice cream social, holiday celebration or festival.

- **Multi-Neighborhood Partnerships**
  Projects that are jointly produced by at least two neighborhoods or community organizations in a partnership effort, addressing either physical or social concerns.

Award submission requirements and application guidelines can be found online at: nusa.org. All submissions must include the $65 entry fee and be postmarked by February 1, 2019.

A panel of judges will review all applications and select finalists for each category. All finalists will be invited to make a presentation to a judging panel during the 2019 Neighborhoods, USA Conference in Palm Springs, California, May 15-18, 2019. Award finalists will be notified on or before March 1, 2019. Costs associated with attending the conference and making a presentation is the sole responsibility of each finalist organization.

Best Neighborhood Program (BNP) Award

The Best Neighborhood Program (BNP) award recognizes the outstanding work of governmental entities, businesses or corporations in the United States who work to improve the quality of life in their communities and neighborhoods.

If your organization completed a neighborhood improvement project or activity in 2018, you are invited to enter the Best Neighborhood Program Award competition to bring national attention to the program that made your community a better place to live.

Award are given in two categories:

- **Physical Revitalization/Beautification** - Programs that focus on physical aspects of improving your neighborhood such as parks, lighting, litter control, traffic management, housing improvements, green spaces and business district enhancements.

- **Social Revitalization/Neighborliness** - Programs focusing on the social or cultural aspects of a neighborhood like safety, youth and/or
senior programs, activities that make neighbors feel connected and foster neighbors working together on programs like an ice cream social, holiday celebration or festival.

Award submission requirements and application guidelines can be found online at: nusa.org. All submissions must include the award entry fee of $50 for Electronic Format submissions or $65 for Print Format submissions for the Neighborhood Newsletter Competition Award and be postmarked by February 1, 2019.

A panel of judges will review all applications and select finalists for each category. All finalists will be invited to make a presentation to a judging panel during the 2019 Neighborhoods, USA Conference in Palm Springs, California, May 15-18, 2019.

Award finalists will be notified on or before March 1, 2019. Costs associated with attending the conference and making a presentation is the sole responsibility of each finalist organization.

**Neighborhood Newsletter Competition (NNC)**

Community newsletters are an effective communication tool to share news about your city, community and neighborhood. A well designed newsletter can spark an interest in neighborhood involvement, increase neighborhood association membership and spur volunteerism.

The Neighborhood Newsletter Competition rewards excellence in community newsletters and is given in two categories/subcategories:

- **Print Format Newsletters**
- **Electronic Format Newsletters**

Award submission requirements and application guidelines can be found online at: nusa.org. All submissions must include the award entry fee of $50 for Electronic Format submissions or $65 for Print Format submissions for the Neighborhood Newsletter Competition Award and be postmarked by February 1, 2019.

Award recipients will be notified on or before March 1, 2019. Costs associated with attending the conference and making a presentation is the sole responsibility of each finalist organization.

**Who’s Who in America’s Neighborhoods Awards**

The Who’s Who in America’s Neighborhoods award was created to recognize those individuals whose work mirrors the mission of Neighborhoods, USA: to build and strengthen neighborhoods; to encourage neighborhood involvement in the decision-making process in local governments; and to promote productive communications and collaborations between neighborhood associations, local governments and the public/private sector.

Each Who’s Who in America’s Neighborhoods (WWAN) nominee will be evaluated by the Neighborhoods, USA Board using the following criteria: the neighborhood involvement of nominee, information on how the nominee has proven to be a leader in the community and specific reasons why the nominee has earned the Who’s Who in America’s Neighborhoods recognition.

There are two categories for this award:

- **Governmental nominee** – Includes elected officials, local or state government staff and paid neighborhood advocates or community leaders for work within their local community.
- **Grassroots/Neighbor nominee** – Includes non-paid neighborhood advocates and/or community leaders for work within their local community.

It is encouraged but not required, that nominees for the Who’s Who in America’s Neighborhoods be in attendance at the 2019 Neighborhoods, USA Conference in Palm Springs, California from May 15-18, 2019 to receive their award, if chosen.

There is no entry fee to submit a nomination for the Who’s Who in America’s Neighborhood recognition. Award recipients will be notified on or before March 1, 2019. Costs associated with attending the conference is the sole responsibility of each award recipient.
Award entry requirements

- All entries MUST include a legible copy of the Required Cover Sheet and Application found online at: nusa.org.
- Applications MUST include the correct entry fee (no cash payments will be accepted).
  - $65 - Neighborhood of the Year
  - $100 - Best Program of the Year
  - $50 - Electronic Newsletter
  - $65 - Printed Newsletter

Entry fees may also be paid electronically via PayPal at: http://www.nusa.org/nusa-awards/award-application. If you choose to use this option, please attach a copy of your PayPal receipt to your application. Cash will not be accepted.

- All applications MUST be mailed and postmarked by February 1, 2019 to:

  2019 NUSA Awards
  ATTN: Catherine Huckaby
  Community Engagement Office
  818 Missouri Ave.
  (Hazel Harvey Peace Center)
  Fort Worth, TX 76104

For more information about the awards application, entry fees or judging process, please contact the Awards Committee via email at: AwardsProgram@nusa.org or contact Catherine Huckaby by phone at: (817) 392-8085.

NUSA affiliate, city/county and corporate memberships

We sincerely appreciate your support and value your membership with NUSA. If your organization became a member after November 1, 2018 we will include your information in the spring edition of our newsletter.

Affiliate members

College Hills Neighborhood Association - Birmingham, Ala.

Hands on Youth Activities Program - Birmingham, Ala.

Norwood Resource Center -

Birmingham, Ala.

Building Our Neighborhoods for Development and Success (BONDS) - Montgomery, Ala.

Goleta Old Town Community Association - Goleta, Calif.

Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs (ONE-PS) - Palm Springs, Calif.

Flintridge Center - Pasadena, Calif.

Lilly’s Garden - Thorton, Calif.

Imperial Point Civic Association - Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations - Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Florida Neighborhoods Conference - Orlando, Fla.

Historic Kenwood Neighborhood Association - Saint Petersburg, Fla.

Star-C - Atlanta, Ga.

Idaho Crime Prevention Association - Boise, Idaho

Indianapolis Neighborhood
Resource Center - Indianapolis, Ind.
Pogue’s Run Grocer - Indianapolis, Ind.
Prosperity Indiana - Indianapolis, Ind.
Old Speedway Neighborhood Association - Speedway, Ind.
Miller Park Minne Lusa Neighborhood Association - Omaha, Neb.
North Omaha Neighborhood Alliance - Omaha, Neb.
Triple One Neighborhood Association and Parents Union - Omaha, Neb.
Academy Heights Neighborhood Association - South Orange, N.J.
The Tar River University Neighborhood Association - Greenville, N.C.
America in Bloom - Centerville, Ohio
Churchill Area Neighbors Disaster Organization (CAN Do) - Eugene, Ore.
Downtown Neighborhood Association - Eugene, Ore.
Friendly Area Neighbors - Eugene, Ore.
Southeast Eugene Neighborhood Association - Eugene, Ore.
Eugene ToolBox Project - Eugene, Ore.
Columbia Council of Neighborhoods - Columbia, S.C.
Williams Park Neighborhood Council - Mullins, S.C.
New Chicago Community Partnership Revitalization CDC - Memphis, Tenn.
Uptown Community Association - Memphis, Tenn.
Colonial Hills Neighborhood Association - San Antonio, Texas
Greater Oxford Civic Association - Richmond, Va.
Community Council of Tacoma - Tacoma, Wash.
National Neighborhood Watch Council - Nassau, Bahamas
Japan Association for Community Policy - Tokyo, Japan

Citizens Crime Watch - Special Task Force - Quezon City, Philippines

“Community cannot long feed on itself, it can only flourish with the coming of others from beyond: their unknown and undiscovered sisters and brothers.”

-Howard Thurman
NUSA city/county members

Birmingham, Ala.                      Wichita, Kan.                     Bryan, Texas
Anchorage, Alaska                    Hattiesburg, Miss.                 Fort Worth, Texas
Peoria, Ariz.                        Tupelo, Miss.                      Garland, Texas
Little Rock, Ark.                    Gladstone, Mo.                     Hurst, Texas
Carlsbad, Calif.                     Omaha, Neb.                        Plano, Texas
Monrovia, Calif.                     Concord, N.C.                      Round Rock, Texas
Palm Springs, Calif.                 Winston-Salem, N.C.                Rowlett, Texas
Perris, Calif.                       Beaverton, Ore.                     Provo, Utah
Riverside, Calif.                    Eugene, Ore.                        West Valley City, Utah
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.                Charleston, S.C.                   Kent, Wash.
Village of North Palm Beach, Fla.    Spartanburg, S.C.                   Green Bay, Wis.
Orlando, Fla.                        Balch Springs, Texas                

Corporate members

Memorial Health System - Hollywood, Fla.
Habitat for Humanity of Omaha - Omaha, Neb.
Omaha Public Library - Omaha, Neb.
North and East Lubbock CDC - Lubbock, Texas

“A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm.”

-Henrik Ibsen