



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

February 3, 2006

**CONTACT:** Alonza Robertson, 202.466.1933, [Alonza@westinrinehart.com](mailto:Alonza@westinrinehart.com) or  
Jade Floyd, 202.466.7324, [jade@westinrinehart.com](mailto:jade@westinrinehart.com)

**National Black MBA Association unveils “Winning” as  
2006 theme for professional and wealth development**

WASHINGTON (February 3, 2006) – The National Black MBA Association (NMBBAA), the country’s largest minority business professional organization, is embarking on a series of special networking and career development events across the country this year to culminate this fall in Atlanta at the group’s 28<sup>th</sup> annual conference and exposition.

“Winning” is the group’s conference theme this year; in Education, Entrepreneurship, Career, Leadership and Lifestyle. In support of that theme, the organization has scheduled a variety of events designed to groom more “business champions!”

“Our organization is rededicated to providing opportunities for professional and leadership development for executives, entrepreneurs and community leaders,” said NMBBAA CEO and President Barbara Thomas. “We have renewed our focus and expect to expand awareness of our organization’s commitment, and status, as a champion of leadership development and involvement with the communities from which our membership is drawn,” she said.

The campaign commences this February when Thomas takes her message of education, wealth development and other issues of involving minorities and women in the workplace to several prominent universities. The college tour includes:

- Duke University - February 4;
- Hofstra University - February 22;
- Harvard University - February 24;
- Stanford University - March 11;

In St. Paul, Minnesota Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, the NMBBAA’s Twin Cities chapter – one of 39 across the country – is hosting the Midwest’s premiere diversity education and training event, the 2006 Multicultural Forum, at the University of St. Thomas College of Business.

On March 30<sup>th</sup>, Dallas will host the NBMBAA's Local Empowerment Initiative (LEI), a national program that offers the best of the annual conference in select local markets where attendees have the opportunity to hear from the nation's foremost thought leaders, dialogue with industry experts and explore cutting edge technologies. Stedman Graham, author of two New York Times bestsellers will give the keynote address in Dallas.

"We want to make it possible for a wider range of persons to benefit from the best programming from the National Conference," Thomas said.

The NBMBAA has scheduled its annual Golf and Spa Retreat this year on April 21<sup>st</sup>- 23<sup>rd</sup> in sunny Orlando. Members traditionally flock to the event for networking and rejuvenation.

In addition, there will be a renewed focus on marketing of Ntential, - a subscription online career development tool that offers professional career resources, assessment and personal career coaching.

The highlights of the various activities around the country are a prelude to the organization's premiere event, the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Exposition to be held Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> – Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> in Atlanta at the Georgia World Congress Center.

Celebrating its 36th anniversary this year, the National Black MBA Association is dedicated to creating partnerships that result in intellectual and economic wealth in the black community. With more than 6,000 members, the association, which is headquartered in Chicago, represents more than 100,000 MBA graduates. The NBMBAA has 39 local chapters across the United States. For more information on the NBMBAA , please visit [www.nmbaa.org](http://www.nmbaa.org).

###