



Recognition of the Nigerian Diaspora in Tallahassee FL

The second state-wide recognition of the Nigerian Diaspora in Florida is scheduled to take place at the State Capitol, Tallahassee on **Wednesday, April 12, 2017**. The trip also presents an opportunity for the Nigerian delegation to showcase Nigerian Culture at the Capitol. During the visit, the Nigerian delegation will have ample opportunity to meet and lobby State legislators on numerous issues, including but not limited to, getting funding for the African Museum of Arts and Culture (AMAC), the first African Museum in Florida and the Nigerian Community Center.



Florida State Capitol, Tallahassee

Spearheaded by Senator Daphne Campbell of Florida District 38 and the Nigerian American Foundation (NAF), the umbrella body of all Nigerians in South Florida (estimated at more than 5500), the festivities will afford Nigerians the opportunity to showcase their rich culture while helping to dispel myths about Nigerians in particular and Africans in general.

The first ever Nigerian American Day was celebrated February 24, 2016 at the Florida State Capitol in Tallahassee. The event was a joint initiative of out-going State Representative, Daphne Campbell, Ms. Tinu Pena, who is running for Florida House District 86 (Palm Beach) and the Nigerian American Foundation. A powerful delegation of 20 Nigerian professionals based in South Florida led by the NAF Board Chair, Chief Joseph Obadeyi and Dr. Yinka Tella, NAF President, took Tallahassee by storm. They were joined by their Tallahassee based compatriots including a contingent of about 25 students from the African Student Union (ASU) at FAMU. Dignitaries that attended the Capitol reception included members of the House of Representatives Minority Caucus. to restrict the settlement of Syrians and other refugees into the state while vigorously expressed support for HB 1277, sponsored by Representative Campbell, which was unanimously passed by the House Health Quality Sub-committee. It outlines an alternative licensure process for foreign-trained physicians. Addressing the house minority caucus, Dr. Tella observed that Africa is home to all people of black descent and that one out of every four African is a Nigerian. He urged support of the house for a diverse community in Florida that allows smart, law-abiding and hardworking people to thrive regardless of their geographic origin. Nigerian-Americans, he noted, are the most educated immigrant group in the United States with vested interest in a progressive society where everyone can pursue the core values of liberty and happiness without let

or hindrance. He commended Representative Daphne Campbell for her steadfastness in making the Nigerian American Day a reality and wished her resounding success in her election bid for a seat on the State.

For this year, the Tallahassee itinerary of the group departing from South Florida is provided below:

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

8:00 AM: Delegation assembles at Walmart Parking Lot on 151 SW 184 Ave, Pembroke Pines 33029 (Junction of Pines Blvd and 184 Ave) for ground transportation to Tallahassee.

4:00 PM: Delegation arrives in Tallahassee.

8:00 PM : Kick off Party at Downtown Double Tree 101 S Adams street. TLH, FL 32301 .
850. 224-5000

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

8:00 AM: Delegation departs for the Capitol to meet with State Representatives and Senators.

12:30 PM: Set-up of Multi-media arts display by renowned artiste, Adewale Adenle

(<http://www.adenle.com/>) on the third floor of the Capitol

11:30 PM: Nigerian-American Day Reception featuring African music, cuisine and artworks on the 22nd floor of the Capitol

8:00 PM: Private Reception hosted by Sean Pittman, Esq., President/CEO, Pittman Law Group, 1028 E. Park Avenue, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Thursday, April 13, 2017

9:00 AM: Breakfast with the Mayor of Tallahassee at

Interested Nigerians and friends are cordially invited to join the delegation to guarantee a large turn-out. For additional information about the trip please contact:

The Nigerian American Foundation (NAF) @ (305)-699-4NAF or by email:
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Florida State Senator Daphne Campbell: Daphne.Campbell@floridasenate.gov

Yinka Tella, Ed.D.

President, Nigerian American Foundation (NAF)