



ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY®

301 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, NW | SUITE 1508 | WASHINGTON, DC 20001
202.238.5910 | ASALH.ORG

Denise Rolark Barnes Class of 2025

Current Employer:

The Washington Informer, Washington, DC

Professional Background:

Denise Rolark Barnes is the publisher and second-generation owner of The Washington Informer, succeeding her father, the late Dr. Calvin W. Rolark, who founded the newspaper in 1964. The Washington Informer is a multi-media organization serving the African American community in the Washington metropolitan area. Denise is also president of Washington Informer Charities, a non-profit organization that promotes 21st-century literacy and sponsors writing competitions, internships, scholarships, and other events promoting African American history, culture, and literature.



Major Accomplishments:

Rolark Barnes is past chair National Newspaper Publishers Association – the Black Press of America. She serves on the boards of several local non-profit, community, and municipal organizations, including the Washington Convention and Sports Authority (Events DC), the DC Martin Luther King Holiday Commission, National Newspaper Publishers Association Fund, the Maryland, Delaware, DC Press Association, and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, and the Pan African Collective. She is also a member of Leadership Greater Washington, as well as an inductee in the D.C. Hall of Fame.

Previous Service to ASALH:

Extensive committee work and current Executive Council member.

ASALH MISSION

To promote, research, preserve, interpret and disseminate information about Black life, history and culture to the global community.



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What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH:

As a life member and current Executive Council member it is my hope to help amplify the significance and work of ASALH, help build membership, secure and increase funding, and enhance its organizational structure.

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