

The LINKS, Inc. To Hold National Assembly at Hilton July 5-10

The LINKS, Incorporated, is an organization of women with more than 180 chapters located in 48 states and the District of Columbia. The organization was incorporated on March 28, 1951. It was founded by Sarah S. Scott and the late Margaret Hawkins in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on November 9, 1946. Subsequently, fourteen groups of women formed chapters and became the first charter chapters of the National Assembly; they held their first national meeting in Philadelphia in June, 1949. Delegates were present from Atlantic City, Baltimore, Pittsburg, Raleigh, Saint Louis, Washington, Wilmington, Delaware and Wilson-Rocky Mount, Tarboro, North Carolina. National Assemblies were held annually from 1950 through 1959; since then, they have been held every biennium, the last having been in 1980.

Born in the immediate aftermath of World War II, and facing new concerns and mid-century imperatives in human rights and social and racial justice, the organization was of necessity compelled to respond to the American dilemma and to its own sense of purpose. For more than thirty years, the organization has gathered momentum, continued to redefine its purposes, sharpened its focus and expanded its program dimensions in order to make the name "LINKS" not only a chain of friendship, but also a chain of purpose.

The LINKS, Inc. is committed to educational, cultural and civil activities. A national program of educational activities provides enrichment experiences for black youth who are educationally and culturally deprived, as well as those more fortunate children who need aid as they cultivate their talents. Aside from its local efforts involving

thousands of young people, the organization has supported through life memberships the program of the NAACP; contributed more than \$100,000 to the Legal Defense and Education Fund of the NAACP; contributed over \$100,000 to the Urban League; contributed in excess of \$500,000 to the United Negro College Fund and other programs of higher education; and made numerous gifts to the non-LINK organizations when the causes have been geared to civic achievement and voluntary public service.

The national organization, headed by the National President is divided, for administrative purposes, into four areas, each with a regional director (central, eastern, southern and western). In late 1974 a National Headquarters was established in Washington, D.C. It is located at 1522 "K" Street, N.W., Suite 404, Washington, D.C. 20005.

The National Assembly, held every two years, directs the program of The LINKS, Inc. The Executive Council, under the leadership of the National President, is charged with guiding the implementation of the national programs. The council consists of the national officers (national vice-president, national recording secretary, national treasurer and member-at-large), the general counsel, the public information officer, the journalist, the chairperson of the nominating committee, the coordinator and chairpersons of the national program facets, and the four area directors.

Past National Presidents of The LINKS, Incorporated are Sarah S. Scott, Co-Founder, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Chapter; Margaret R. Hawkins, Co-Founder, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Chapter (De-



JULIA B. PURNELL

LAS VEGAS WELCOMES LINKS, INC.

May your stay with us be adventurous and helpful

ceased); Polly Weeden Maloney, Lynchburg, Virginia Chapter; Vivian J. Beamon, Cincinnati, Ohio Chapter (Deceased); Helen G. Edmonds, Durham, North Carolina Chapter; Pauline A. Ellison, Arlington, Virginia Chapter; and Julia Brogdon Purnell, Baton Rouge, Louisiana Chapter.

The National Slogan for The LINKS, Inc. is "Improving the Quality of Life by Linking Leadership and Services to Meet the Challenge of Community and National Needs."

The National Program consists of four main areas: Services to Youth; The Arts; National Trends and Services; and International Trends and Services. There are a number of projects under each of these areas. In the area of Services to Youth, projects include African-American Heritage Awareness; College-Bound and Talent Identification; Pre-School Education; Career Education; Drug Awareness and Abuse Education; Program for the Educationally Disadvantaged;

Family Life Education; Teenaged Employment Assistance; Implementation of Select Goals from the White House Conference on Children and Youth; and Cooperative Relationships with Agencies. Projects in the Arts area include Children's Theatre; Creative Writing; Dance; Music; Paintings, Sculpture and Graphic Arts Exhibits and Fine Arts Festivals. The National Trends and Services area includes workshops on: Citizenship, Communications, Environment, Consumer Protection, Health, Housing, Employment Policy, Minority Business, Retooling Women, Senior Citizens

and Women Power Commission. International Trends and Ser-

VICES features workshops on: U.S. Foreign Policy Programs, United Nations Association of USA, Human Rights Day, Foreign Policy Discussion, International Women's Decade, International Year of the

Child as well as programs for the World Affairs Student Tour for High School Students, the International Student Exchange on High School and College Levels and National Council for Community Services to International Visitors.

Each chapter determines its programs from these subject areas according to the needs of its community.

Its program is the reason for the existence of The LINKS, Inc.

CONVENTIONS WORK IN LAS VEGAS. GET MORE DONE. THEN HAVE MORE FUN.

LAS VEGAS CONVENTION/VISITORS AUTHORITY

CONVENTION CENTER
3150 PARADISE ROAD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89109
TELEPHONE AREA CODE 702-733-2323

June 28, 1982

Ms. Julia B. Purnell
National President
THE LINKS, INCORPORATED
1522 "K" Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20005

Dear Ms. Purnell:

On behalf of the Las Vegas Convention/Visitors Authority, I wish to extend a most enthusiastic welcome to the national conference of The Links, Incorporated.

As you spend the next few days discussing issues that are vital to your organization, please keep in mind that you are in the world's most exciting city. Our world renowned entertainment, superb restaurants and posh casinos await you.

Be assured that every member of the LVCVA staff stand ready to assist you, and will do their utmost to see that your first Las Vegas convention is a most memorable one.

Have a fruitful meeting.

Sincerely,

Frank C. Sain
Executive Director

FCS:sg