

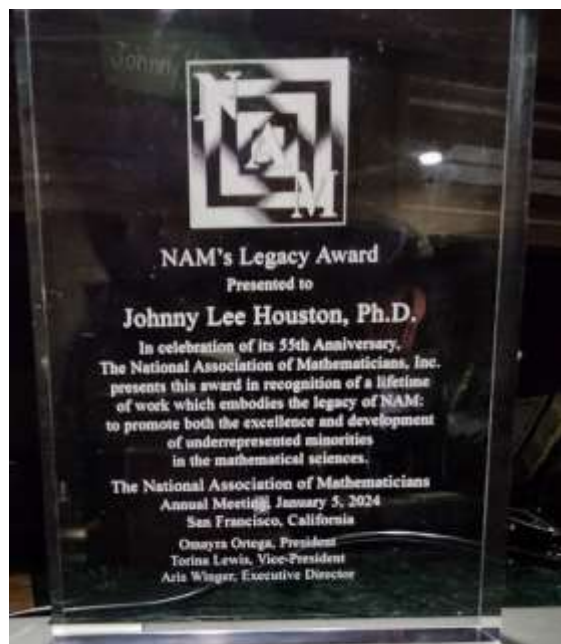
NAM PRESENTED JOHNNY L. HOUSTON, PhD

NAM's 55th Anniversary Legacy Award at JMM 2024



At NAM's 55th Anniversary Banquet (JMM) in San Francisco, CA, Jan. 5, 2024, NAM presented its 2nd Legacy Award to Johnny L. Houston who retired from NAM's Board of Directors in Jan. 2024 after 50 years of service on NAM's Board of Directors between (1969-2024). This was NAM's 2nd Legacy Award ever given (Dr. Evelyn Boyd Granville received NAM 1st Legacy Award at NAM's 50th Anniversary Banquet in 2019). A Legacy Award may be given on a NAM's Anniversary year is divisible by 5

When presented the Award, Houston said “NAM has been an integral part of my positive impact in the mathematical sciences community in the areas of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity (EDI), and it has promoted excellence in the mathematical sciences for all Americans, especially underrepresented American minorities. I am and will continue to be an active Life Member in NAM, MAA, AMS, and SIAM to serve as an example of what I am requesting other to do. America is, and should always be, a great country with access and freedom for all of its citizens to have the opportunities to become their own success stories in STEM areas, especially in the mathematical sciences. However, too many of America's citizens, especially underrepresented American minorities, still need more support, opportunities, doors opened, and encouragement to succeed. Certain groups need help to achieve parity. I urge NAM and other groups on the Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) to continue to advocate, in America, EDI for all American citizens in their pursuit in the study of mathematics at every level.”



When the **Legacy Award** was presented, several persons at the Banquet came to the dais and made complimentary remarks about Houston's dedication, commitment, service, and many contributions to NAM and the mathematical sciences community. These persons were NAM's president, Dr. Omayra Ortega, NAM's Executive Director, Dr. Aris Winger, former NAM's president, Dr. Edray Goins, former NAM's former V. President Dr. Sylvia Bozeman, NAM's former treasurer, Dr. Robert Bozeman, NAM's former Bd. member Dr. Duane Cooper, and NAM's first Exec. Dir, Dr. Leona Harris. The speakers' remarks varied. Many referred to contents in Houston's one page Bio. All alluded to the facts Houston was one of the lead Co-Founders of NAM in (1969), NAM's first active and longest serving Executive Secretary (1975-2000) who also served on

NAM's Board of Directors during every NAM's presidency, except Dr. Asamoah Nkwanta, whose term began Feb. 1, 2024. Houston received NAM's Life Time Achievement Award (1999), and NAM's Co-Founder's Award (2019) and has presented practically all of NAM's Lectures and Addresses, including NAM's 25th David Blackwell Lecture at MAA MATHFest (2019) in Cincinnati, OH, during Blackwell's 100th year and NAM's 50th year. When NAM's Board established NAM's Historical and Archival Committee (2018), Houston was appointed chair. Houston wrote and published the 242-pp. volume: **The History NAM, the first 30 years** (2000). He updated NAM's History in the publication **Passing the Torch** (2023, Feb. AMS Notice). Words on the Award summarized Houston's services-contributions to NAM & the mathematical Sciences.