

MNA 2026 Ballot: Meet the Candidates

- **President-elect**

Jennifer F. Bierbaum, DNP, RN, APRN-CNS, AGCNS-BC, CENP, CPHQ, GERO-BC, FCNS

- **Treasurer**

Sherry B. Perkins, PhD, RN, ACC, FAAN

- **Secretary**

Debra K. Jorae, MSN, RN, NEA-BC

- **Director at large**

Cathy Gibson, BSN, RNC-Ob, RNC-MNN, IBCLC, C-EFM;
Sadie Parker, RN, AA, BS, MSN
Rebecca F. Wiseman, Ph.D., RN

- **Representative to the ANA Membership Assembly**

Debra K. Jorae, MSN, RN, NEA-BC
Nwamaka Oparaoji, DNP, RN, MS, BS
Sadie Parker, RN, AA, BS, MSN

- **Committee on Nominations**

Rebecca F. Wiseman, Ph.D., RN



Scan the QR code for the candidates' information.

A Celebration of Nursing Returns this October

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) 123RD Annual Convention will bring nurses from across the state together on October 8 & 9, 2026, at the Maritime Conference Center in Linthicum Heights, Maryland. This year's theme, "The Power of Maryland Nurses: Advancing Health, Honoring Service, Celebrating America 250," highlights both the extraordinary impact of nurses on the health of our communities and the nation's celebration of America's 250th anniversary. More than an annual gathering, the convention is a chance to celebrate the profession, explore new ideas, and reconnect with colleagues who share a commitment to advancing nursing in Maryland.

One of the convention's highlights will be the keynote address by Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, PhD, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, President of the American Nurses Association. MNA is honored to welcome one of the profession's most respected national leaders to this year's event. Her perspective on the profession's challenges, opportunities, and future promises to offer valuable insight and inspiration for attendees. Hosting a speaker of her caliber in Maryland reflects MNA's ongoing commitment to providing members with access to nationally recognized voices shaping the profession.

Beyond the keynote, the convention

will feature two full days of educational programming designed by nurses for nurses. Podium and poster presentations will highlight best practices in leadership, emerging research, and the history of nursing in Maryland. Attendees will also have the opportunity to visit industry exhibitors, discover new products and services, and engage with organizations that support nursing practice. Equally important are the conversations between sessions—meeting new colleagues, reconnecting with familiar faces, and exchanging ideas that often continue long after the convention ends.

As the state's largest annual gathering of nurses, the MNA Annual Convention continues to be a place where professional development and community come together. Whether you're looking to earn continuing education, expand your professional network, or simply celebrate the remarkable work of Maryland nurses, this year's convention offers something for every stage of a nursing career. Registration is now open at MarylandRN.org, and MNA looks forward to welcoming nurses from every corner of the state for what promises to be an inspiring and memorable two days. ■

Maryland Nurses Association

123RD
ANNUAL CONVENTION

OCT 8 & 9, 2026 - MARITIME CONFERENCE CENTER
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MD

**DON'T MISS
MARYLAND'S
PREMIER NURSING
EVENT OF THE YEAR**

Featuring Keynote Speaker, ANA President
Dr. Jennifer Mensik Kennedy

**SCAN FOR
TICKETS**