



National Advocacy Conference

Feb. 10–12, 2020
Grand Hyatt Washington
Washington, D.C.

MONDAY, FEB. 10

President's lecture

3–4 p.m.

Independence Ballroom A



Sekou Andrews
Creator, "Poetic Voice"

Kicking off this year's conference is Sekou Andrews. For over 15 years, he has been helping the world's largest organizations deliver relevant information with riveting inspiration through an innovative, unconventional category of speaking called "Poetic Voice." Sekou's speeches on disruption, dynamic communication and storytelling help his audience connect more deeply with their communities, become more influential leaders and unlock greater possibilities. He has also emerged as an inspiring voice for health and wellness and has worked with prominent health care leaders, including United Healthcare, Mayo Clinic, TEDMED and Blue Shield.

Capitol Hill briefing

4–5 p.m.

Independence Ballroom A

In this session moderated by AMA EVP/CEO James L. Madara, MD, senior advocacy staff from the American Medical Association will deliver an overview of the organization's priority issues and things to keep in mind if you are meeting with members of Congress.

- **Todd Askew**, senior vice president, Advocacy, AMA
- **Cindy Brown**, vice president, Government Affairs, AMA
- **Jason Marino**, director, Congressional Affairs, AMA
- **James L. Madara, MD**, EVP/CEO, AMA

AMA leadership on the issues

5–6 p.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Also moderated by Dr. Madara, this session shares the perspectives of the AMA president, president-elect and the chair of the AMA Board of Trustees on the issues

they address daily when discussing the AMA's efforts and advocacy agenda with members of Congress, the administration and the media.

- **Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA**, president, AMA
- **Susan R. Bailey, MD**, president-elect, AMA
- **Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, MD, MPH**, chair, Board of Trustees, AMA
- **James L. Madara, MD**, EVP/CEO, AMA

Welcome reception sponsored by AMPAC

6–7 p.m.

Independence Ballroom B–E

TUESDAY, FEB. 11

Breakfast

7:30–8:15 a.m.

Independence Ballroom B–E

Inside the Beltway

8:30–9:30 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

John King

Chief national correspondent and anchor, "Inside Politics," CNN



John King is an award-winning journalist who has covered the past seven presidential elections and reported from all 50 states and more than 70 countries. Instrumental in CNN's daily reporting and breaking news coverage, King also played an integral role in the election reporting that received an Emmy award in 2006 and 2012 and a Peabody award in 2008. In addition to his domestic reporting, King has covered a number of major international events, including the first Persian Gulf War and the inauguration of Nelson Mandela as president of South Africa.

From the administration: Seema Verma, administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

9:30–10 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

In her leadership position at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Seema Verma oversees a \$1 trillion budget, which represents 26% of the total federal budget, and administers health coverage programs for more than 130 million Americans. This year, she set a bold agenda to empower patients and transform the health care system to deliver better value and results for patients through competition and innovation. To achieve this, CMS will continue to focus its efforts on 16 strategic initiatives across Medicare, Medicaid and the exchanges.

**Congressional perspectives:
Rep. Kevin Brady (R-Texas)**

10–10:30 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Kevin Brady has been representing Texas' 8th District since 1997 and is currently the lead Republican on the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee with jurisdiction over taxes, health care, Social Security, Medicare, international trade and welfare. He previously served as chairman of the Health Subcommittee for the Ways and Means Committee. As chairman, he focused on ensuring a strong, free market in the nation's health care industry and looked for ways to increase the quality of health care while keeping costs low.

**Congressional perspectives:
Rep. Donna E. Shalala (D-Fla.)**

10:30–11 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Donna E. Shalala represents Florida's 27th District as an advocate for women's rights, civil rights, increased access to health care, better education and public schools, and a clean and sustainable environment. She served as the secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 1993 to 2001, the longest tenure in the history of the department.

**Congressional perspectives:
Rep. Suzan DelBene (D-Wash.)**

11–11:30 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Suzan DelBene has been a representative for Washington's 1st District since 2012. With more than two decades of experience as a successful technology entrepreneur and business leader, she brings a unique voice to the nation's capital. DelBene currently serves on the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee, which is at the forefront of the debate on health care.

**From the administration:
Adm. Brett P. Giroir, MD, assistant secretary for health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Independence Ballroom A

As assistant secretary, Adm. Brett P. Giroir, MD, leads the development of public health policy recommendations and oversees several of the department's core public health offices, including the Office of the Surgeon General. Dr. Giroir also serves as senior adviser to the secretary on opioid policy and is responsible for coordinating the department's efforts to fight the opioid epidemic. In addition, his office leads many critical national initiatives, including a historic new plan to end the HIV epidemic.

Lunch

12:15–1 p.m.

Independence Ballroom B–E

Afternoon free for Hill visits

Dr. Nathan Davis Awards reception

6–6:45 p.m.

Independence Ballroom B–E

This reception is open to all National Advocacy Conference attendees.

Dr. Nathan Davis Awards dinner

7–9:30 p.m.

Independence Ballroom A

The Dr. Nathan Davis Awards for Outstanding Government Service are considered one of the most prestigious awards honoring elected officials and career government employees. These awards, named for the founder of the AMA, Dr. Nathan Davis, aim to recognize significant accomplishments to advance public health.

Master of Ceremonies: Deborah Roberts



Deborah Roberts, an award-winning ABC News correspondent for “20/20,” “Nightline,” “Good Morning America” and “ABC World News Tonight with David Muir,” will serve as the master of ceremonies for the awards dinner. A highly respected journalist and media veteran, Roberts has traveled the world in her reporting, receiving multiple Emmy awards for her

international and national coverage along the way. Recognized for her extraordinary narratives, long-form reports and intimate profiles, Roberts has served as a co-host on “The View,” as well as a substitute anchor for “World News Weekend,” “20/20” and “Good Morning America.”

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12

Breakfast

7:15–8 a.m.

Independence Ballroom B–E

Congressional perspectives:

Sen. John Barrasso, MD (R-Wyo.)

8–8:30 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

John Barrasso, MD, was sworn into the U.S. Senate in 2007 after representing the people of Natrona County in the Wyoming Senate from 2003 to 2007. As chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, he is the third-ranking Republican in the Senate. Active on a variety of committees, he is also the chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee. During his 24 years as a practicing orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Barrasso served as president of the Wyoming Medical Society, which also named him “Wyoming Physician of the Year.”

From the administration: Alex M. Azar II, JD, secretary, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

8:30–9:15 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Alex M. Azar II, JD, was sworn in as the 24th secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on Jan. 25, 2018. He has identified four priorities to focus the department’s work to improve the health and well-being of the American people: the opioid epidemic, health insurance reform, drug pricing and value-based care. Azar has spent his career working in both the public and private sectors as an attorney and in senior leadership roles focused on advancing health care reform, research and innovation.

Congressional perspectives: Sen. Bill Cassidy, MD (R-La.)

9:15–9:45 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Bill Cassidy, MD, was sworn into the U.S. Senate in 2015 and currently serves on the Finance Committee; the Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee; the Energy and Natural Resources Committee; and the Veterans' Affairs Committee. Previously, Dr. Cassidy served in the Louisiana Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1990, Dr. Cassidy joined Louisiana State University Medical School, where he taught medical students and residents at Earl K. Long Hospital, a hospital for the uninsured.

Break

9:45–10 a.m.

Independence Ballroom Foyer

Patient advocates

10–10:30 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Telling your story and your patients' stories to the administration and members of Congress is an important aspect of your advocacy efforts. Two patient advocates, Adrienne Shapiro and Adrian Williams, will share their experiences to illustrate how public policies can directly affect patient care, stigma and health equity. Shapiro is a founder of Axis Advocacy and is part of a fourth generation of mothers in her family to have a child with sickle cell disease. Williams founded afwcreative and works to heal cross-cultural divisions, and educate and advocate on behalf of at-risk communities battling sickle cell and other chronic diseases.

Medical marijuana legislation in the 116th Congress

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Despite growing support for legalization of marijuana for medical use, federal laws restrict access to strains of the drug that are needed by researchers to determine its potential effectiveness and correct dosage for specific health problems. A bipartisan panel of congressional staff will give an overview of issues associated with marijuana-derived products and legislative efforts to address this knowledge gap.

Recap and wrap-up: Everything you need to know and remember from the conference

11:30 a.m.–noon

Independence Ballroom A

Key AMA Advocacy staff will review the highlights of our speakers and tie them together with the key messages you should be delivering while visiting your members of Congress.

- **Lindsey Brill**, assistant director, Congressional Affairs, AMA
- **Dana Lichtenberg**, assistant director, Congressional Affairs, AMA

Lunch

Noon

Independence Ballroom B–E

Afternoon open for Hill visits

All speakers and times are subject to change.

NOTES

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SAVE THE DATES

AMA National Advocacy Conference

Feb. 22–24, 2021

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AMA National Advocacy Conference

Feb. 14–16, 2022

Grand Hyatt Washington • Washington, D.C.

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AMA Code of Conduct: The AMA has a robust Code of Conduct for AMA-sponsored meetings to ensure there is a professional and ethical environment for all attendees. Importantly, everyone should feel welcome, safe and able to participate without fear of unwelcome conduct. Attendees should declare conflicts of interest and conduct themselves in a manner that is attune to the highest ideals of the profession. We encourage attendees of AMA meetings to review our anti-harassment and conflict of interest policies.

