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[www.littlerockmarathon.com](http://www.littlerockmarathon.com)  
a division of Little Rock Parks & Recreation



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## National Black Marathoners Association to Recognize Hall of Fame Honorees in Little Rock

*NBMA Annual Summit banquet at the Little Rock Marathon on Sat., March 2, 2019*

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – Little Rock Marathon Race directors announced today they will be hosting the National Black Marathoners Association (NBMA) in recognizing their 2019 National Black Distance Running Hall of Fame honorees. The Hall of Fame induction ceremony will occur at the 2019 NBMA Annual Summit banquet at the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Little Rock Marathon on Sat., March 2, 2019. The honorees include: Herman Atkins, Alisa Harvey, Oscar Moore, and the Honorable Mayor Catherine Pugh of Baltimore, MD.

An estimated 700 NBMA members from across the country will take part in the marathon and ceremony.

These individuals are recognized for their running abilities from 800 meters to the marathon and for their service and leadership in the African-American and running communities. This is the organization's fifteen-year anniversary.

"We're very excited about returning to Little Rock to honor standouts in the African-American distance running," said Tony Reed, NBMA's Executive Director. "We feel that it's important that we acknowledge the things our runners have done, even if others haven't."

Here are a few of the honorees' accomplishments:

### **Herman Atkins (Everett, WA)**

- Ran the fastest marathon by a native-born Black American at the Nike/Oregon Track Club Marathon in a time of 2:11:52 on September 9, 1979
- Ran a personal best in 1973 for 5,000 meters in 13:43.
- Placed ninth in 1979 Boston Marathon in 2:14:27.
- Led the Snohomish Track Club to a 1993 National Masters Cross-Country 10K Championship.

### **Alisa Harvey (Manassas, VA)**

- World class performances range from the 800m to the marathon for over 30 years
- Holds World Indoor record for the 800m in the 45 to 49 age group division.
- Holds the American Indoor records for the 800m in the 40 to 44, 45 to 49, and 50 to 54 age groups and the American Outdoor records for the 800m in the 40 to 44 and the 45 to 49 age groups.
- Qualified for the 1999 US Olympic Marathon Trials in 2:49:28 and the 2008 US Olympic 800M Trials at 42 years old
- Outright won the 2006 Army 10 Miler and set a masters record of 59:00.
- Is the only four-time winner of the Army 10 Miler (1998, 1999, 2003, and 2006).
- Won the 1991 and 1999 New York City Fifth Avenue Mile.

### **Oscar Moore (Glassboro, NJ)**

- Range of world class performances was phenomenal from the one mile to the marathon.
- Was the first African American to represent the U.S. Olympic team in the 5,000 meters in 1964.
- In 1967, he ranked third all-time for indoor performances at three miles with a time of 13:22.2.
- Coached at Glassboro State College/Rowan University for 23 years.

### **Catherine Pugh (Baltimore, MD) – Community Service Award**

- Completed her first marathon in 3:19.
- Founded the Baltimore Running Festival in 2000.
- Written a series of children's health books.

Additional information about the honorees is available at <http://www.blackmarathoners.org/nbma-hall-of-fame/2019-hall-of-fame-honorees/>.

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### **About National Black Marathoners' Association**

*The National Black Marathoners' Association (NBMA) is the largest and oldest nonprofit organization in the U.S. dedicated to encouraging African Americans and others to pursue a healthy lifestyle through distance running and walking. It is open to everyone, regardless of his or her athletic ability, ethnic background, or previous marathon experience. The NBMA hosts an annual multi-race summit. Previous races and locations have been Lewis & Clark (St. Charles, MO), New Jersey (Long Branch, NJ), Cleveland (OH), Lost Dutchman (Apache Junction, AZ), Cowtown (Fort Worth, TX), Georgia (Atlanta), Bermuda International Race Weekend, Deadwood-Michelson (Deadwood, SD), Madison (WI), Richmond (VA), Windermere (Spokane, WA), Dallas, Columbus (OH), and the Go! St. Louis Marathons.*

### **About Little Rock Marathon**

*The mission of the Little Rock Marathon is provide a premier event open to athletes of all abilities, while promoting a healthy lifestyle through running and walking and raising money for Little Rock Parks & Recreation. Since inception in 2003, more than \$1,093,360.65 has been donated to Little Rock Parks & Recreation. Little Rock Marathon Race Weekend is held the first weekend in March each year and includes a marathon, half marathon, 10K, 5K run/walk, a children's mile and a free two-day health and fitness expo. With an estimated \$6 million in local spending annually, more than 140,000 individuals have participated in a Little Rock Marathon race, sponsored event, or free training program. This has been achieved through school-based programs, community outreach, partnerships with running/walking groups across the country and passionate grass roots promotion. More information is available at: [www.littlerockmarathon.com](http://www.littlerockmarathon.com)*