

Dear BPIA Family and Friends,

It's the holiday season! The BPIA Board of Directors joins me in sending best wishes to you and your loved ones during this traditionally festive time of the year. We wish you all much happiness, good health, and peace throughout the season and in the coming new year.

CY 2021 has proven to be another memorable year. We hope you have enjoyed and found beneficial the varied BPIA programs and events organized by Board members and our wonderful member volunteers. If you have missed some, check out BPIA's social media accounts.

This also been a year of change, one of joys and sorrows. We have lost friends and leaders such as Colin Powell as the covid-19 pandemic continues to affect our lives and livelihoods. Developments on the national scene seemed to threaten our democracy but still others give us reason to hope for a brighter future. We must hold on to that hope and continue to work for positive change.

On December 31, 2021, my tenure as president and that of the current Board of Trustees will end. It has been a privilege and pleasure to lead BPIA in its rebuilding and reinvigoration. Our achievements would not have been possible without the contributions of our committed and hardworking Board members, volunteers and that of you -- our members, family, friends and supporters. To each of you, I extend my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude. BPIA's mission, however, remains unfinished. As I have said on many occasions, much work remains to be done. I know you will continue to lend your support to the incoming board as it works to carry on the mission of BPIA.

With best wishes for peace and joy this holiday season,

Sylvia Stanfield  
U.S. Ambassador (ret.)  
President, BPIA