The National Dental Association (NDA) will hold its 103rd Annual Convention from July 22 to 26 at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis in Atlanta.

The meeting features timely continuing education classes, a broad mix of speakers, various special events and an abundance of networking opportunities. A product and resource center will feature show-special discounts and door prizes.

Among the meeting’s many highlights, at the NDA Presidents’ Luncheon on Sunday, July 24, two winning NDA chapters will each receive an engraved plaque and $1,000 awards through the Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures® competition. For the 24th year, Colgate and the NDA will recognize NDA chapters for their outstanding contributions to community outreach and oral health scholarships.

This year’s NDA convention will provide a wide variety of scientific sessions with something for everyone. Subject matter experts will provide attendees with successful methods to optimize access and deliver comprehensive patient care, achieve health equity and improve total patient health, increase productivity and grow small businesses in underserved communities; understand the complexities and successfully navigate dental Medicaid programs, and advocate for policy and influence/reform laws that directly impact vulnerable populations and the providers that care for them.

And, of course, there will be some opportunities to explore Atlanta, with the Atlanta Marriott Marquis located in the heart of downtown and just steps away from some of the city’s most popular attractions, such as: the Georgia Aquarium, World of Coca-Cola, Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Stone Mountain Park and Centennial Olympic Park.

NDA-HEALTH NOW
Also in conjunction with the convention, NDA will launch its signature program NDA-HEALTH NOW® on Thursday, July 21, at the Andrew & Walter Young Family YMCA, 2220 Campellston Road SW, from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

NDA-HEALTH NOW is a grassroots, community-based effort to increase access to oral health in underserved populations. The event will be hosted for the YMCA’s Summer Camp children, their families and the surrounding community. The project is made possible with funding from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation and The Coca-Cola Foundation. Key collaborators for this event are: Colgate, Morehouse School of Medicine, the Georgia Dental Society and the North Georgia Dental Society. Other community partners include WellStar Health System, Mobile Expressions Inc., Georgia State University Perimeter College, Wholistic Stress Control Institution Inc., Center for Black Women’s Wellness, Atlanta Technical College, Starbucks Camp Creek, Crystal Waters, Atlanta Chapter of the Links Inc., Wellcare, C.H.O.I.C.E.S. and Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness. NDA national corporate partners are: Sunstar Americas Inc., Henry Schein Cares, Aetna, General Electric, A-dec, ADI-MOBILE, Patterson Dental, and Crest + Oral-B.

About the NDA
The National Dental Association promotes oral health equity among people of color by harnessing the collective power of its members, advocating for the needs of and mentoring dental students of color, and raising the profile of the profession in its communities.

To learn more about NDA and the meeting, you can visit www.ndaonline.org.

(Sources: NDA, VOCO)