

**Wednesday, February 18, 2026**

6:45p – 7:15p	<b>Delegate Registration</b> *Mandatory for all Delegates*	Starlight Ballroom
7:15p – 7:45p	<b>Delegate Orientation</b> *Mandatory for all Delegates*	Starlight Ballroom
6:45p – 7:15p	<b>Monitor Registration</b> *Mandatory for all Monitors*	Atlantic 2
7:15p – 7:45p	<b>Monitor Orientation</b> *Mandatory for all Monitors*	Atlantic 2
8:00p – 9:00p	<b>Student Registration</b>	Ocean Ballroom Foyer
8:15 – 9:30	<b>House of Delegates I</b> Bylaws *Open to the Public* *Quorum will be called at 8:15 pm sharp* *Mandatory for all Delegates* *Dinner Session for Board, Monitors, and Delegates* Light Dinner will be served promptly at 7:45 for Board, Monitors, and Delegates	Starlight Ballroom

**Thursday, February 19, 2026**

7:00 – 1:00	<b>Convention Registration</b>	Ocean Ballroom Foyer
7:00 – 8:30	<b>House of Delegates II</b> Bylaws *Open to the Public* *Mandatory for all Delegates* BREAKFAST SERVED AT 6:30 FOR DELEGATES ONLY.	Starlight Ballroom
8:00 – 11:00 ----- 12:30 – 5:00	<b>Exhibit Hall Open</b> ----- <b>Exhibit Hall Re-Opens</b> *Gift Basket Drawing at 4:50 pm* *Must be present to win*	Ocean Ballroom
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> <b>Navigating the Nursing Road, Your Challenges- Your Choices</b> Keynote Speaker: Donna Cardillo, RN	Super Star Theater
11:00 – 12:00	<b>Exhibitor Lunch</b> <b>*Exhibit Hall Closed*</b>	Ocean Ballroom
12:30- 5:00	<b>Exhibit Hall Re-Opened</b>	Ocean Ballroom
12:40	<b>Student Lunch</b>	Ocean Ballroom
1:00 – 2:30	<b>Deans/ Directors/ Faculty Luncheon</b> (pre-registration required) Keynote speaker: Leon Jarvis, BSN, RN, AVP Critical Care at RWJ Barnabas Health Newark Beth Israel Medical Center	Capriccio

## Speaker Schedule

### Focus Session 1

9:00 – 9:50	<b>Exams and Care Plans: Laughter Yoga, The Rx for Nursing Students</b> Speaker: Sandra Foley, DNP, RN	Horizon Ballroom
9:00 – 9:50	<b>AI in Healthcare and Nursing Education</b> Speaker: Larider Ruffin, DNP, APN, ANP-BC, AGNP-C, CRNP, CTTS, FAAN	Atlantic 2
9:00 – 9:50	<b>Building Resilience in Nursing Students and Faculty</b> Speaker: Tammy Gerrity, MSN, RN	Atlantic 3
9:00 – 9:50	<b>Coming back from the edge: A professional nurse's journey through</b> Speaker: John Lanier, MS, RN, NE-BC	Atlantic 4
9:00 – 9:50	<b>Caring without Barriers: Language, Trust, and Patient Safety</b> Speaker: Barbara McCormick DNP, RN, CEN Cindy Hou, DO, MA, MBA, CIC, CPHQ, FACOI, FACP, FIDSA, FAPIC Christina Carty, BA, Jessica Vidal-Navas	Atlantic C&D

### Focus Session 2

10:00 – 10:50	<b>Pharmacology Made Insanely Easy for NCLEX® Success!</b> Speaker: Loretta Manning, MSN, RN, GNP	Horizon Ballroom
10:00 – 10:50	<b>AI in Nursing: Confidence, Caution, and the Future You're Walking Into</b> Speaker: Lendra James, DNP, MS, RN, NE-BC	Atlantic 2
10:00 – 10:50	<b>Inside Out: The Emotionally Intelligent Nurse—Where Stress Meets Skill and Grit Becomes Growth</b> Dr. Lois V. Greene, DHA, MBA, BSN, RN, NEA-BC, FADLN	Atlantic 3
10:00 – 10:50	<b>From Stress to Success: Growing Joyfully Through Transition to Practice</b> Speaker: Harriet Sarkodie, DNP, RN, MEDSURG-BC, NPD-BC, and Elsie Alabi-Gonzalez, MSN, RN, CNE, CNEcl, MEDSURG-BC, PCCN	Atlantic 4
10:00 – 10:50	<b>New nurse, New role: Thriving During Your First Year of Professional Practice</b> Speaker: Joset E. Brown EdD, MSN, RN	Atlantic C&D

### Focus Session 3

1:00 – 1:50	<b>Medical Surgical Nursing Made INSANELY EASY!</b> Speaker: Loretta Manning, MSN, RN, GNP	Horizon Ballroom
1:00 – 1:50	<b>What Do I Do with Nurse Money?! A practical guide to making, saving, and thriving.</b> Speaker: Lucas Lipari BSN, RN, CCRN, MICN	Atlantic 2
1:00 – 1:50	<b>The Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner: Intersection of Care and Justice</b> Speaker: Desiree Allison MSN, RN, CEN, FN-CSA	Atlantic 4
1:00 – 1:50	<b>Clinical Judgment Made Simple for Pharmacology and the NCLEX</b> Speaker: Mary Jane Genuino, DNP RN MEDSURG-BC AGPCNP-BC FSIEN	Atlantic C&D

### Focus Session 4

2:00 – 2:50	<b>Surviving Your First Day: A Brand-New Nurse Discussion and Q&amp;A</b> Speaker: Dave Dovell, RN, BSN, PCCN	Horizon Ballroom
2:00 – 2:50	<b>Pursuing an Advanced Nursing Degree: Next Steps in Your Career</b> Speaker: Alexander Murphy	Atlantic 2
2:00 – 2:50	<b>Inside-Out Excellence: From Survival to Strategic Leadership</b> Speaker: Olayinka Lowe, DNP, MSN, FNP-BC	Atlantic 4
2:00 – 2:50	<b>From Caregiver to Leader</b> Speaker: Sarmite Catalfomo MSN, RN, PCCN	Atlantic C&D

### Focus Session 5

3:00 – 3:50	<b>Inside Out in Emergency Nursing—Feel the Emotions!</b> Speaker: Daniel Misa, MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, NE-BC, NPD-BC, GERO-BC, SCRN	Horizon Ballroom
3:00 – 3:50	<b>Test-Taking Skills: Mastering Questions Like a Pro</b> Speaker: Rachel Taylor, MSN, BSN, RN	Atlantic 2

3:00 – 3:50	<b>Beyond the Bedside: Non-Traditional Nursing Careers</b> Speaker: Rebecca Meyer MSGH, BSN, RN, CCRN	Atlantic 4
3:00 – 3:50	<b>Get Your Dream Job! How to ace your interview</b> Speaker: Susan Moraca DNP, MSN, RN	Atlantic C&D

### Focus Session 6

4:00 – 4:50	<b>NCLEX® 101: Hurst Review's Clinical Judgment Approach for NCLEX® Success</b> Speaker: Ashley Griffin MSN, RN	Horizon Ballroom
4:00 – 4:50	<b>Fighting Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Beyond the Bedside: A Career Providing Trauma-Informed Care at the Intersection of Sexual and Reproductive Health</b> Speaker: Sakura Roberta Ando, MSN, RN	Atlantic 2
4:00-4:50	<b>From Crawling to walking and thriving</b> Speaker: Kwame Osei-Agyepong	Atlantic 4
4:00-4:50	<b>Know your Patho: Putting Ischemic Cardiomyopathy into Clinical Practice</b> Speaker: Olivia Mertz MSN, RN, CCRN	Atlantic C&D

4:55-5:10	<b>Drawing for Gift Baskets</b> *Must be present to win*	Ocean Ballroom
6:00 – 9:00	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Night Party: Inside out</b> Come dressed in your favorite emotion for a night of dancing, a photo booth, and food!	Atlantic Ballroom

### Friday, February 20, 2026

7:00 – 8:30	<b>House of Delegates III</b> *Open to the Public* *Mandatory for all Delegates* BREAKFAST SERVED AT 6:30 FOR DELEGATES ONLY.	Starlight Ballroom
8:45 – 9:15	<b>Delegate Voting</b> *Mandatory for all Delegates*	Starlight Ballroom
9:15 – 9:30	<b>2026-2027 NJNS Board Elections Results</b>	Horizon Ballroom
9:30 – 12:30	<b>Mini NCLEX® Review - Hurst Review's Step by Step Approach to NCLEX® Success</b>	Horizon Ballroom