



## **ACTRESS ANNA MARIA HORSFORD TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT NADSA 76<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**DALLAS, TEXAS** –The National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts (NADSA) announced that award-winning TV and film actress Anna Maria Horsford will serve as keynote speaker for the 76th Annual Conference, March 14-17, at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters (TBAAL) in Dallas, Texas.

Horsford, 53, was born and raised in Harlem, New York. She is perhaps best known for her role as Thelma Frye on the sitcom *Amen*, her role as Craig Jones' mother, Betty Jones, in the 1995 comedy, *Friday*, the 2002 comedy sequel, *Friday After Next*, and as security guard Dee on *The Wayans Bros*. She is currently starring as Helen on the new BET sitcom *Reed Between the Lines*.

Recently, Horsford's guest spots on *Everybody Hates Chris*, *Las Vegas*, *Grey's Anatomy*, HBO's *Entourage*, and a recurring role on the Emmy-winning series *The Shield*, have kept her current with television audiences.

Founded in 1936, the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts (NADSA) is a student-driven organization comprised of member theatre and speech programs, primarily at HBCUs from across the country. Now the nation's oldest surviving educational theatre association, NADSA annually convenes a four-day national conference in March or April with performances, competitions, workshops, scholarly presentations, guest speakers, and meetings, culminating with an awards banquet.

TBAAL, the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, is a multidisciplinary arts organization based in Dallas, Texas. Now in its 35<sup>th</sup> season, TBAAL is housed in a 250,000 sq. ft. facility in the heart of downtown in the Dallas Convention Center. This year's NADSA conference will mark the fifth consecutive year that TBAAL has served as host. For information, visit [www.tbaal.org](http://www.tbaal.org)

For more information about the NADSA 2012 Conference, visit [www.nadsainc.com](http://www.nadsainc.com) or contact NADSA Executive Secretary Amini Johari-Courts at (410) 951-3374 or [acourts@coppin.edu](mailto:acourts@coppin.edu).

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**Anna Maria Horsford's Complete Filmography (by genre):**

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0395428/filmgenre>