

FALL 16

HOWARD

magazine



The Howard Woman

Let's Put Our Minds on Her



I didn't attend Howard University for my undergraduate or graduate studies, so I will not pretend to know what it's like to walk in her shoes. I traveled to the Howard Homecoming during my early undergraduate years, I took in her essence at my very first Opening Convocation and Charter Day, and I walk and talk alongside her every day on campus. So, I *can* tell you what I've observed of her.

She comes in all shapes, all sizes. She wears her hair natural. Has hair extensions. All shades of Black. All walks of life. She stomps the Yard as a proud sorority sister. An individual who knows her style is unmatched. A shining athlete. A writer. Represents the "Black Elite," the inner city, the country. An artist. The quintessential woman about town. An engineer. She's confident. Sure of herself. She doesn't tolerate disrespect, and she always speaks her mind. A Black academician. Speaks up for what she thinks is right. Founds things. Of course, she serves her community. Can talk the finest talk about the issues of the day. A Renaissance woman, she knows her stuff. Makes her mark in the world, no matter her discipline. She's memorable. Happily pushes the envelope. Carries herself with a certain something about her. She's strong. Always makes eye contact when she talks. Never shies away from the hard topics and makes sure everyone in the room knows that she matters—in a big way.

This issue, "The Howard Woman," is the first of its kind. It continues this conversation about her and packs #BlackGirlMagic into every page by very intentionally showing her, and only her, reigning supreme. You will read about Howard's rare abundance of woman leadership; the Howard Woman leading some of the nation's top glossy magazines; women in STEM; media mogul Cathy Hughes; and California U.S. Senate hopeful Kamala Harris. You'll get a firsthand account from current Howard Women who covered the Rio 2016 Olympics, a history lesson from the majestic Eleanor Taylor, Ph.D., and so much more.

So, take your time. Read these pages slowly. They will inspire you, empower you, educate and refresh you. I think you will agree with me when I say that the Howard Woman is, and has always been, on fire!

Alumni on the Move

We hear so many amazing stories about alumni making an impact in their careers and communities, but we just don't have the space to publish articles about all of them in *Howard Magazine*. If you have a unique or fascinating story about an alumna or alumnus, we want to know about it. Please email us at magazine@howard.edu.

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Back Cover:
Photo: Justin D. Knight
Senior Howard Women listen intently as Valerie Jarrett, senior adviser to the U.S. President, addresses them.

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newsroom.howard.edu

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She Who Breaks Barriers

By Wayne A.I. Frederick (B.S. '92; M.D. '94; M.B.A. '11)

Social transformations grow out of the interaction between collective experience and personal achievement. One of the greatest global changes, to date, is the rapidly expanding role of women. My passion for inclusivity in leadership and, specifically, my persistence in placing women in leadership roles across the University is a direct result of experiences that have allowed me to witness a wide breadth of this institution through a plethora of lenses.

The women in my life have positively impacted the lens through which I view life. Even to this day, my moral compass is a direct result of teachings from my 92-year-old grandmother. I was raised by the tenaciously spirited Ms. Frances M. Tyson-Hill. She was a zealous and dedicated nurse in Trinidad for 50 years and just retired last year. I am influenced by my first supervisor at Howard University, Mrs. LaRue Barkwell, who personifies equanimity under duress. I worked under her direction and benevolent spirit for four years as a student—however, the lessons learned will last a lifetime. I later had the privilege of *working for* Mrs. Barkwell again when I appointed her as my chief of staff. She has committed 40 years of *Excellence in Truth and Service* to Howard University and has been a leader, teacher, mentor and confidante for many across our campus. I am married to the intellectually spirited Mrs. Simone Frederick, who earned her Bachelor of Science degree in computer science and management from the University of the West Indies. She is driven by education, community service and the arts. To our union, we are both inspired by the hopeful spirit of our daughter, Miss Kirie Frederick, who was born at Howard University Hospital. She is a proud left-hander, like her mother. Kirie is interested in becoming the first Black woman president of the United

States, while serving on the weekends as a surgeon. The drive for knowledge that our son, Wayne II, exemplifies is refreshing. It is obvious that his interest in computer science is a direct result of his mother's intelligence. For Kirie, being a young woman is an honor and an opportunity to highlight her belief that the possibilities are limitless. Wayne II and I are certainly better people and, more important, better men because of the women in our lives.

The Howard Woman is a barrier breaker. She is a trailblazer. She is tenacious, intellectual and hopeful. The Howard Woman is a mosaic masterpiece of Charlotte E. Ray, Toni Morrison, Marie Clark Taylor, Ph.D., Phylicia Rashad, Debbie Allen, Dr. Roselyn Payne Epps, Zora Neale Hurston, Patricia Roberts Harris, Angela Ferguson, Ph.D., Shauntay Hinton, Me'Shell NdegéOcello, Jessye Norman, Jeanne Craig Sinkford, Ph.D., Kamala Harris and many more. The Howard Woman cannot be defined; however, she is a necessity to ensure that our local, global communities and our Howard University remain sustained.

Whomever the 18th president of this storied institution will be, I hope that *she* is someone who is guided by the Howard Women before her who have paved

a pathway to a place at the table for her. For, at a time such as this, it is our duty—Howard University's duty—for our graduates to shatter the glass from the ceilings that attempt to limit us and ensure that no one ever puts those pieces back together again. ■IU

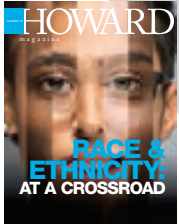
Excellence in Truth and Service,

Wayne A. I. Frederick, M.D., M.B.A.



Miss Kirie Frederick

Bison Conversations



We picked a comment from the Summer 2016 issue, “Race & Ethnicity: At a Crossroad,” in which you were asked: *How can Blacks foster a sense of inclusion in collegiate societies across the country?*

“Blacks can foster a sense of inclusion in collegiate societies across the country by:

1. Applying to, attending and graduating from college, and supporting any causes or organizations that assist Blacks with this
2. Attending an HBCU. If not, then becoming a member of the Black student association at a majority school, [and] pursuing Black Greek letter organization membership
3. Participating in and supporting alumni clubs and alumni events
4. Reaching back to support young Black people who want to attend college.”

—Brittney Blackmon
(B.B.A. '09), Brooklyn, N.Y.



Here's a new question:

How do you define the Howard Woman?

Please email your responses, with the subject line “Bison Conversations,” to magazine@howard.edu, and include your first and last name, degree earned from Howard, graduation year and current city.



Howard Women I Have Known

By Eleanor W. Traylor, Ph.D.

I am sure that Howard Women number among those that Claudia Tate has illumined as “the cult of true womanhood,” and fill the roster of Dorothy West-varieties of Jack and Jill. I am sure that they inhabit the Cape Cod, Highland Beach and Poconos cottages of social swirl note. I know that on the 1700 block of S Street and New Hampshire Avenue, NW, in Washington, D.C., is the elegant home of HU sorority members, as it is of Howard Juris Doc Allie Latimer, for years general counsel for the Links, Inc., and a member of Thurgood Marshall’s winning civil rights team. HU Women are bulwarks of church and community salvages; they are founding builders of club and business enterprises. And, thankfully, they are keepers of the flame who pass on the virtues and strengths alive in the continuing generations of Howard University peoplehood.

And yet, the Howard Women who have had an impact on my life have been thoroughbred originals. One could, of course, call Zora Neale Hurston (co-founder of *The Hilltop*) a force of nature (as her fervent HU Zeta Phi Beta Soror Marjay D. Anderson, Ph.D., does). I met Miss Hurston one tear-drenched Thursday ’round midnight. Sleepless, I picked up her book called *Tell My Horse*. There, I discovered the Haitian philosophy of creativity: its constructive and destructive nature. I discovered the cause of my tears, and instantly, gratitude replaced grief. I grew like Jack’s beanstalk when I met Toni Morrison, the matrix of contemporary



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68.2

Percentage of women
in the Fall 2016 incoming
class of 997 students

fiction. As a student, she had been, like the late Roxie Roker (television star) and Mary Nelson Wilburn (attorney), one of Anne Cooke's and Owen Dodson's internationally renowned Howard Players. Toni and I were officemates on the third floor of Founders Library (neighboring the office of revered Professor Sterling A. Brown), where we would counsel our students and grade their freshman compositions, and where she would draft on yellow legal pads her now definitive *The Bluest Eye*. There is the late Glenda Dickerson, devotee of Dodson, who led the Black Stage from "the kitchen to the big woods" of post-Black Arts imagination. She and our student Debbie Allen, dynamo of the contemporary Dance Academy, with Lynn Whitfield and Lynda Gravatt, stunning HU actresses, began to call me "godmother."

Speaking of students (mine), there is Majda Atieh, Ph.D., who built the graduate program in African-American literature at the University of Damascus. Last I heard on Mother's Day was "Hi, Ma, we're still here." There is Angelyn (Angie) Mitchell, Ph.D., at Georgetown University, teaching English and African-American studies, and requesting of me articles for her encyclopedic ventures. I honor them, as I do Dana Williams, Ph.D., who features me in her edited collections of African-American criticism. Dana succeeds me as chair of the Department of English at Howard, which benefits from the presence of Yasmin DeGout, Ph.D., who has served as faculty adviser in its graduate program. The wheels of that program may grind slowly, but what it produces is exceedingly fine.

Certainly among the Howard Women I have known (imagine the scores I have not), I am not forgetting Madame Diva Jessye Norman; internationally renowned painter Lois Mailou Jones; botanist Marie Clark Taylor; innovative bibliographer Dorothy Porter Wesley; singer-songwriter Roberta Flack; actress Phylicia Rashad; television star Taraji P. Henson; nor the artist-curatorial genius-biographer Tritobia (Toby) Hayes-Benjamin; the painter Starmanda

HU WOMEN ARE BULWARKS
of church and community salvages;
they are founding builders of club and
business enterprises. And, thankfully,
they are keepers of the flame who
pass on the virtues and strengths alive
in the continuing generations
of Howard University peoplehood.

Eleanor W. T aylor, Ph.D.

Bullock, Ph.D. (whose work enlivens my staircase wall); choral director Evelyn Davidson White; musicologist Doris Evans McGinty, Ph.D.; the mythical professor of history Olive Taylor, Ph.D.; the drama critic Jeanne-Marie Miller; novelist and poet Shirley Anne Williams; literary critic Jennifer Jordan, Ph.D.; Caribbean scholar Leota Lawrence, Ph.D.; professor Estelle Wormley Taylor, Ph.D.; student nurturer Lorraine Henry, Ph.D.; the impeccable biographer Paula Giddings, Ph.D.; and, multitalented

historian Bernice Johnson Reagon, Ph.D. (first a Spelman woman, as am I).

Alas, though I court danger, I am thinking of those global women who called or call the Howard campus home in their inspirational capacities as kneaders, molders, shapers, makers of whom we know as the Howard Woman: nutritionist Flemmie P. Kittrell; the first Dean of the Howard University School of Social Work, Inabel Burns Lindsay, D.S.W.; the first woman dean of the College of Fine Arts, Vada E. Butcher, Ph.D.; historian Elsie Lewis, Ph.D.; professors of English Language and Literature Charlotte Watkins, Ph.D., Gertrude Rivers, Ph.D., Lettie Austin, Ph.D., R. Victoria Arana, Ph.D., and Ann Kelly, Ph.D.; classicist Carrie Cowherd, Ph.D.; historian and Vice President of Academic Affairs Lorraine A. Williams, Ph.D.; medical educator Eleanor Ison Franklin, Ph.D.; reference librarian Janet Sims-Wood, Ph.D.; sociologist and past interim president of Howard University Joyce A. Ladner, Ph.D.;

professor of microbiology Georgia Mae Dunston, Ph.D.; senior vice president and secretary Artis Hampshire-Cowan; pioneer of African Cinema Studies Francoise Pfaff; past Howard University General Counsel Norma Leftwich, Esq.—all of whom are among a few stored forever in the memory of my heart. ■^{HU}

To read more about the dynamic history of *The Howard Woman*, visit <http://tinyurl.com/hcvj7cp>.

THE BENEFITS OF A CHARITABLE BEQUEST

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In Their Shoes

Howard Students Cover Rio 2016 Olympics

This summer, NBCUniversal hired more than 700 interns into the Campus2Career Internship program, with an additional 270 interns working the NBC Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, or at the NBC Sports headquarters in Stamford, Connecticut.

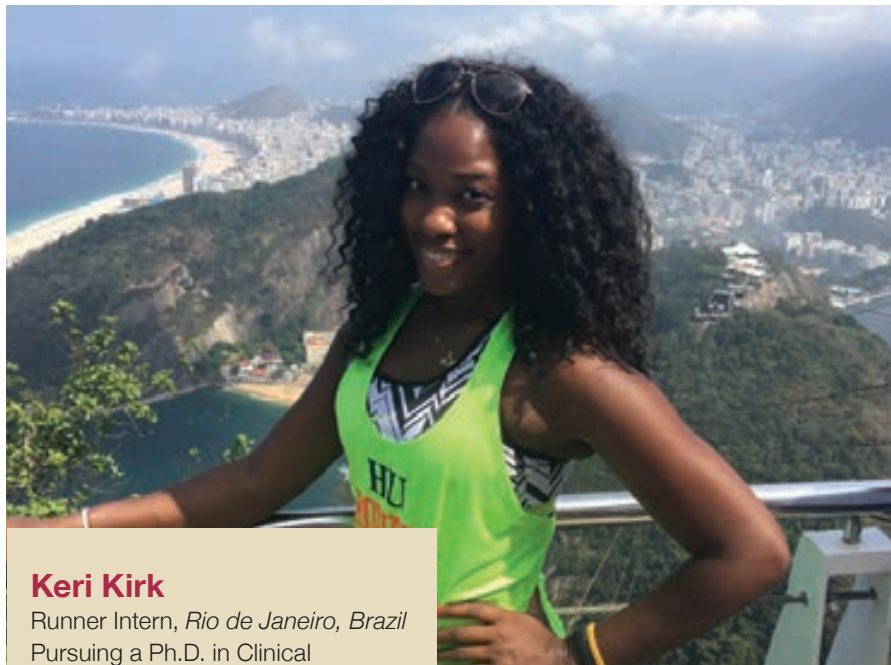
Of these interns, 15 were Howard University students who held internship assignments across a broad range of NBCUniversal's portfolio. Some also took part in the NBCUniversal Fellowship Program, which offers a competitive internship experience, executive exposure, career development and housing provisions for high-potential students from underrepresented backgrounds who are interested in media and entertainment careers.

Two interns, Keri Kirk and K. Giselle Johnson, share their experiences with *Howard Magazine* while on the ground in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and behind the scenes at the NBC Sports headquarters.

Howard Magazine: Tell us about your experience covering the Rio 2016 Olympics.

Keri Kirk: So far, I have been covering track and field, and it has been amazing. As a former track athlete, being a part of the process for this event has been a dream come true. The first day on the job was prep work for the upcoming track and field events; however, during down time, I got a chance to meet both Lewis Johnson and Ato Boldon, two of the best track and field commentators in the world. Additionally, Sanya Richards-Ross is now a commentator, and meeting her was an honor, as a former 400-meter runner.

It has only been a few days, but the Olympic spirit is unlike anything that I have ever felt in sports. You're meeting or watching the best athletes in the world get ready to compete on the toughest stage in the world. You're among people



Keri Kirk

Runner Intern, *Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*
Pursuing a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, Concentration in Health and Sports Psychology – Howard University,
College of Arts and Sciences,
Department of Psychology,
Class of 2018

from so many different countries and immersed in a unique environment of cultural diversity. Just to know that is inspiring. Further, track is one of the most popular Olympic events. Knowing that I'm helping to broadcast that event to the world makes this experience worth the process that it took to get here.

Howard Magazine: What is it like being a runner intern in Rio?

Keri Kirk: I am working with the production team to monitor the recording of the events on the track and in the field. I ensure that the correct cameras are cued to record and that the feeds are running continuously. I knew nothing about cameras, feeds or TV production before this trip, but I had to learn and adapt quickly in order to do the job.

No worries, though. If there is ever a time to rise to the occasion, it is while trying not to fumble the task in prep for national broadcasting!

Howard Magazine: What has been the highlight of your experience in Rio?

Keri Kirk: The highlight of my experience was being at the pool when Simone Manuel won the gold medal in the 100-meter freestyle race. I had actually gone to the aquatics venue to witness the "Duel in the Pool" between Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte, and did not realize that Simone [Manuel] was racing that night. When I saw her walk out, I went a little crazy! The Black Girl Magic was just oozing from her. She was calm, confident and cool. Her presence was powerful. When she was bringing it home, I was screaming at the top of my lungs up in my seat, waving her in like I was about to help her do something! When she touched the wall and her name popped up first, I realized the significance of the moment and was so grateful that I could be there to see it.



K. Giselle Johnson

Ad Inserter Intern,
NBCOlympics.com,
Stamford, Connecticut
Pursuing a B.A. in Film and TV
Howard University,
School of Communications,
Class of 2017

Howard Magazine: Tell us about your experience covering the Rio 2016 Olympics.

K. Giselle Johnson: Covering the 2016 Rio Olympics has been a marathon of opportunity. An opportunity to meet new friends while exploring sports entertainment. An opportunity to learn about digital streaming. An opportunity to fall in love with the world and literally witness numbers grow during an event. My schedule consists of 12-hour days, short lunch breaks, departmental contests and laughs. I've watched historic moments like South Korea winning [its] first gold medal in fencing and bitten my fingernails during table tennis matches. It has been a marathon of memories that will continue to run long after my internship is over.

Howard Magazine: What is it like being an ad inserter intern for NBCOlympics.com in Stamford, Conn.?

K. Giselle Johnson: My official job title is ad inserter. My awesome supervisor, Brett, likes to call it "digital sponsorship integration specialist." Either way, you can blame me for the ads you see while watching the NBC Olympics online. Our department covers every event. With almost 160 streams, each intern is assigned as many as seven sports daily. Watching the content on a live feeder, we determine when to insert ad breaks along with starting and ending coverage. It amazes me that NBC trusts interns to make such important decisions minute-by-minute. It is a high-adrenaline job.

Howard Magazine: What has been the highlight of your experience in Stamford, Connecticut?

K. Giselle Johnson: So far, the intern dinner has been the highlight of my experience in Stamford, the headquarters of NBC Sports Group. A friendly employee sat across from me at my table and began cracking jokes with the interns. After 10 minutes of chatter, he finally introduced himself as Kaare Numme, at-home coordinating producer for NBC Olympics. I literally froze. As an aspiring producer, I took in every moment! If that wasn't enough, I was able to listen to speeches from USA Olympic medalists who have transitioned into roles as on-air talent. That night really set the stage for my internship. ■■

62

Number of women permitted to the School of Communications' incoming class of 82 students

3.49

Average high school GPA for women in the Fall 2016 incoming class

NBCUniversal Campus2Career Internship Program

Howard University is a Top HBCU partner school for the Campus2Career Internship program and remains a strong pipeline for diverse talent. Michelle Hord-White (B.A. '91), the internship program's vice president of talent acquisition and campus programs, and Erica Arden (B.B.A. '11), campus recruiting manager, are both Howard alumnae.

For more information about the NBCUniversal Campus2Career Internship program, visit <http://www.nbcunicareers.com/our-career-paths/campus-2-career-internship-program>.



A Conversation With Valerie Jarrett

Valerie Jarrett, senior adviser to President Barack Obama, recently visited Howard University to speak with senior women students about work-life balance and the importance of woman-to-woman friendships and mentorships. ■HU

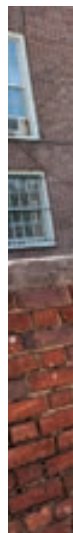


Bison Gallery



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT





Fresh~~men~~^{women} Move-in

Howard University faculty, staff, personnel and returning students welcomed a freshman class of 1,032 students, as they began arriving on campus in mid-August. ■U





JUSTIN D. KNIGHT



School of Law Client Granted Clemency

President Barack Obama granted clemency to Everett Bryant Law, a client of Howard University School of Law, who was serving a life sentence in prison.

Law was one of 42 prisoners whose sentence was commuted in Obama's June 3, 2016, clemency order. Law walked out of prison Oct. 1 after serving 22 years of his life sentence.

Josephine Ross, professor of law and supervising attorney of the Criminal Justice Clinic at Howard University School of Law, said that when they first received Law's name from Clemency Project 2014, there was very little information about his case. The students found out that the rules governing the federal sentencing system were draconian.

The students working with Ross were Janina Crenshaw, Whitnee Goins, Rashida (Davis) Jeremie, Ashley (Futrell) Smith and Morgan Williams. All have since graduated from the School of Law. They spent long days and evenings working on Law's petition, pointing to changes in federal sentencing guidelines that would lead to a shorter sentence today. They successfully argued that his prior conviction for burglary of a VCR from his friend's aunt's house when he was a teenager should not count as a crime of violence. Without that "crime of violence," Law would not be considered a "career criminal" who deserved a life sentence.

Howard University Hospital Jobs Available

The Howard University Hospital (HUH) Human Resources Talent Acquisition Team recently attended the two-day Philippine Nurses Association of America Conference in Washington, D.C. The conference brought together hundreds of Filipino nurses from around the region.

HUH recruiters networked with nurses and highlighted current nurse vacancies. HUH Nurse Darwin Dollano, CNII, joined the team for a day and told other nurses about career opportunities at HUH.

The Human Resources team also recently attended the Eleanor Holmes Norton Job Fair at the Washington Convention Center. For more information about jobs at HUH, contact HUHresumeszip@huhosp.org.

School of Communications Director Awarded

Carol Y. Dudley, director of the School of Communications Office of Career Development, was awarded a Café Mocha Radio 2016 Salute Her Award. Café Mocha launched its annual Salute Her Awards series in 2011, with the goal of recognizing dynamic Black and Latina women who make contributions within their communities and break down barriers with their businesses.

Most popular majors for Fall 2016 incoming class women, in rank order: Biology, Political Science, Psychology, Marketing, International Business, Nursing, Media/Journalism & Film, Journalism, Management, Theatre Arts, Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Accounting, Strategic/Legal & Management Communications

School of Social Work Professors Discuss 'Black Lives Matter' at Conference

At the School of Social Work's recent National Association of Social Workers biennial conference in Washington, D.C., Ruby M. Gourdine, Janice Berry Edwards, Janice M. Davis and Cynthia Harris participated in the panel discussion "Black Lives Matter: Trauma Related Effects: A Clinical Social Work Perspective."

The presentations covered the role of historical trauma, trauma related to clinical social work, having the talk with African-American children, and the search for social work solutions. More than 100 people attended the discussion and solicited interest in addressing trauma in the Black community and the efforts social workers make to address trauma in its various forms, including vicarious trauma. The presentation helped social workers understand its origin and the interventions used and solicited their help in being advocates for social justice.

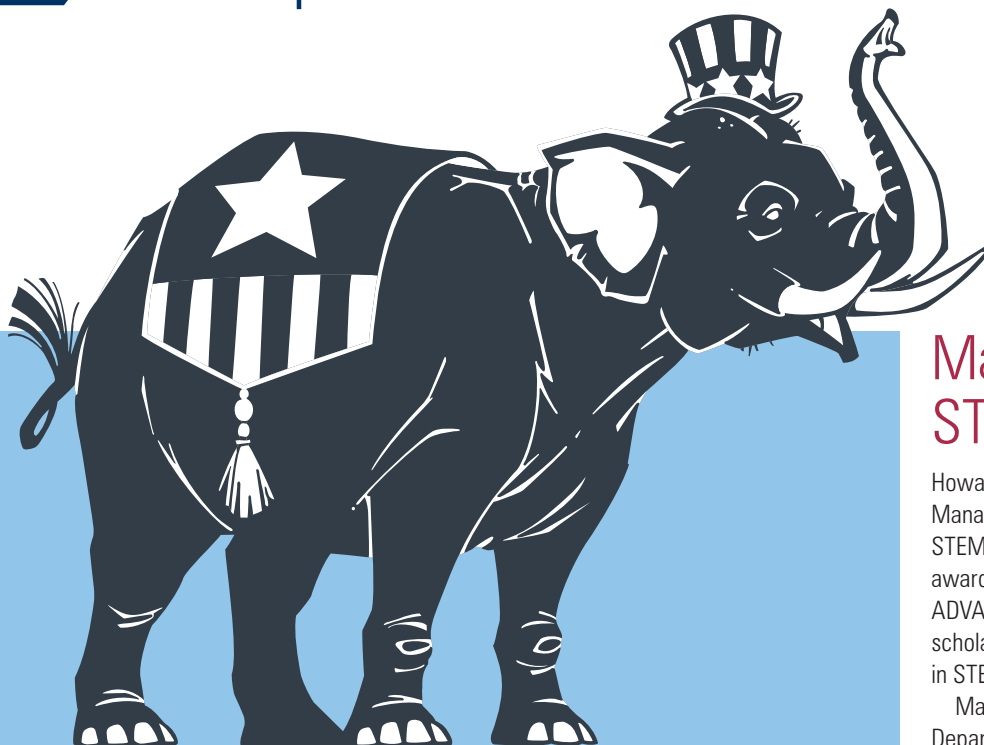
Howard Partners With Lilly for Fellowship Program

Global health care leader Lilly USA, LLC, partnered with Howard over the summer on an inaugural minority fellowship program for post-graduate minority professionals embarking on careers in science or medicine. The fellowship aims to increase collaboration and address the lack of minorities in the pharmaceutical industry by training future health care professionals.

The program—a component of the larger medical scientific fellowship—is open to physicians as well as doctorate and scientific-degreed post-graduates interested in the drug development process. Participants will spend a year training at Lilly to gain knowledge on the complexities of drug development, the regulatory environment and the roles that scientists and health care providers play in this multifaceted process. They will also have the chance to work on special projects on topics of interest, such as health disparities.

College of Pharmacy Establishes New Fellowship

Trusted Health Plan, a Washington, D.C., managed care organization, has partnered with the College of Pharmacy and provided a \$150,000 grant to establish a Health Outcomes Research Academic Fellowship. This 24-month program includes establishing clinical practice activities at Trusted Health Plan's Health and Wellness Outreach Center in northeast Washington, D.C., and conducting innovative research to be published in peer-reviewed journals. The first fellow is Dr. Jennifer Aka, a 2016 graduate of the Howard University College of Pharmacy.



Howard University News Service Covers Republican National Convention

A team of Howard School of Communications faculty and students traveled to Cleveland in July to provide continuous print, broadcast and social media coverage of the Republican National Convention for the Howard University News Service—a student-fueled news wire that serves nearly 200 National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) member newspapers. Howard was one of a handful of university news services covering the convention and the only news service from a Historically Black College or University.

Journalism students and recent graduates McKenzie Marshall, Tatyana Hopkins, Sidnee King and Briahnna Brown participated in the coverage as part of an arrangement between Howard University, the NNPA and Chevrolet to provide young journalists with experience and a \$10,000 scholarship.

Manaye Lands STEM Award

Howard University Professor Kebreten Manaye, Ph.D., was named Woman in STEM Researcher of the Year for 2016. The award, first given in 2014, is bestowed by HU ADVANCE-IT to recognize the distinguished scholarship and leadership of women faculty in STEM at Howard University.

Manaye serves as professor and chair, Department of Physiology and Biophysics in the College of Medicine, and has focused her research on understanding the mechanisms that underlie neurological illnesses and mental diseases associated with brain aging.

College of Arts and Sciences Chair Serves as Principal Investigator

Dana Williams, Ph.D., chair of English, is the principal investigator for “Seshat: A Howard University Digital Humanities Initiative.”

This project works with the College Language Association, a foundation founded by African Americans, to digitize humanities resources focused on African-American literature.

The project is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (Spring 2016).

391

Number of women permitted
to the College of Arts
and Sciences' incoming
class of 557 students

New Appointments

10.9

Percentage of women permitted to the School of Business' incoming class of 163 students

Daphne Buchanan Bernard, Pharm.D. (Pharm.D. '97)



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

was appointed associate provost for Institutional Accreditation and Assessment. Transitioning from her most recent role as interim dean of the College of Pharmacy, Bernard will oversee all aspects of institutional accreditation, implementation of recommendations from accrediting bodies, as well as development and implementation of assessment activities throughout the University in her new role.

Bernard received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the Howard University College of Pharmacy. She then completed the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Anticoagulation Traineeship at the University of Washington Medical Center. She has also accomplished the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Academic Leadership Fellowship. Bernard is a Board Certified Anticoagulation Care Provider and completed the Ambulatory Pharmaceutical Care Certification Program with the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy, sponsored by Kaiser Permanente. In 1999, she successfully implemented the Anticoagulation Management Service at Howard University Hospital, which serves a vital role in the hospital's effort to improve drug therapy management.

Terri A. Neal (B.S.W. '87; M.Ed. '03)



was recently appointed director of Student Financial Aid. In her new role, reporting to Provost and Chief Academic Officer Anthony Wutoh, Ph.D., and Chief Financial Officer Michael Masch, Neal will oversee all aspects of student financial aid for the University. Prior to this role, Neal worked as director of financial aid for the United Negro College Fund's Gates Millennium Scholars program, and senior program manager for the operations team at the organization. She is not new to Howard, as she worked for nine years as manager for scholarships and special awards, and as financial aid counselor at the University for three years. Neal earned both a Bachelor of Social Work and a Master of Education degree from Howard University.

Rhea Ballard-Thrower, J.D.



was appointed director of University Libraries, replacing Interim Director of University Libraries Carrie M. Hackney and Interim Director of the Moorland-Springarn Center Clifford L. Muse Jr., Ph.D. In her new role, Ballard-Thrower will oversee all aspects of the University Libraries system. Additionally, she will direct and coordinate research, instructional services and other educational activities for the University Libraries and the Moorland-Springarn Research Center.

Prior to this appointment, Ballard-Thrower served as director of the Howard University School of Law Library, and as associate professor on the faculty of the School of Law. She completed her Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Cincinnati, Juris Doctor at the University of Kentucky and Master of Information and Library Sciences (MILS) at the University of Michigan.

Toyin Tofade, Pharm.D.



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

was appointed dean of the College of Pharmacy. Tofade succeeds Daphne Buchanan Bernard, Pharm.D. Tofade will provide direction, leadership, vision and oversight for the College of Pharmacy, and will report to Provost and Chief Academic Officer Anthony Wutoh, Ph.D. Most recently, Tofade was assistant dean of the Experiential Learning Program and associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in Baltimore. Tofade earned her Bachelor of Pharmacy degree at Obafemi Awolowo University in Nigeria, her Master of Science in pharmacy practice and Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Legacy

Then



COURTESY OF MOORLAND-SPRINGARN RESEARCH CENTER, HOWARD UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



Now

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter

Founded on the campus of Howard University on Jan. 15, 1908, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter remains committed to the Alpha Excellence envisioned by its founders. Alpha Chapter takes pride in always remaining Alpha Excellent by giving back to Howard University and the community at large. Some of the chapter's signature programs include Freshmen Move-In, Stop the Violence and Sister to Sister, which helps freshman girls adjust to life at Howard and gain mentorship through meeting members of Alpha Chapter. In addition to being involved in the sorority, many members of Alpha Chapter are also heavily involved in other campus organizations, including Bisonettes, Girls Inc., Homecoming Steering Committee, Student Council, Campus Pals and 1867 Undergraduate Assistantship Program. Members of Alpha Chapter take great delight in remaining unmatched in their service to all mankind, sisterhood and paving the way throughout history.

Now in its 108th year of existence, Alpha Chapter has maintained its position at the forefront of its community, as its members render service to all mankind through health awareness, economic empowerment and strengthening the Black community. ■HU



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter

Jan. 13, 1913, marked the dawn of a new horizon in the history of Black women. On that day, 22 indelible young women from Howard University set the foundation for what is now one of the largest Black women's organizations in the world—Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Inspired by the need for change, these women combined their strengths under the principles of sisterhood, scholarship and service. Dancers, writers, actresses, educators, social workers, mothers and sisters were all titles attributed to the remarkable founders of Delta Sigma Theta. But above all, they were trailblazers. These women made a way from no way, and they endeavored to follow such a daring path that would lead them to Delta.

Now in the 103rd year of existence, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter, remains unmatched in its dedication to sisterhood, scholarship and public service. ■HU

Then



Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter

On Jan. 16, 1920, in Howard University's historic Miner Hall, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., was founded by five coeds: Arizona Cleaver Stemons, Pearl Anna Neal, Myrtle Tyler-Faithful, Viola Tyler-Goings and Fannie Pettie Watts.

The founders, notably known as "The Five Pearls," were illustrious women who believed "sorority elitism and socializing should not overshadow the real mission of a progressive organization—it is to address societal mores, ills, prejudices, poverty and health concerns of the day." Daring to be "inclusive" rather than "exclusive," they wanted the sorority to include women who were passionate about exemplifying the principles of scholarship, service and sisterly love and the ideals of finer womanhood.

The Quintessential Alpha Chapter, 96 years later, strives each day to continue the dreams of "The Five Pearls." Along with its brother organization, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. (as

Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta are the only constitutionally bound Black Greek Letter Fraternity and Sorority), these organizations spread the message of community awareness and scholarship. ■HU

Now





Then

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Alpha Phi Chapter

On Nov. 12, 1922, the youngest sorority of the “Divine Nine,” Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., was founded by seven young educators amid segregation on Butler University’s campus in Indianapolis, Indiana. These women began with a dream to help society through education and nurtured it into reality. Through projects such as OPERATION BigBookBag, which provides school supplies, tutoring and mentoring programs for children; and Program for Africa, which focuses on the expansion of HIV/AIDS awareness, education and treatment in Africa, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., continues to see this dream fulfilled.

Now, more than 77 years after the chartering of the Alpha Phi Chapter, its members continue to uphold the motto of “Greater Service, Greater Progress” on Howard University’s campus. Through community service, programs and activities, members of the Alpha Phi Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., seek to enhance the quality of life within the community through educational, civic and economic means. ■HU



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The Howard Woman is
"bold, she's resilient,
she's a trendsetter, she's
unbelievably resourceful,
she's a groundbreaker, she's
fearless, she's conscious,"
Black said.



Nicole Black

Co-owner, Philadelphia Diamond Company

By Briahnna Brown (B.A. '16)

Like the diamonds she sells, Nicole Black (B.A. '92) became the embodiment of The Howard Woman while under pressure.

"The Howard Woman is bold," Black said. "She's resilient, she's a trendsetter, she's unbelievably resourceful, she's a groundbreaker, she's fearless, she's conscious."

As co-owner of the Philadelphia Diamond Company, with her husband, Kenyatta Black, Nicole

Black credits a great deal of her success to the opportunities she was given while a student in the School of Communications.

"When you have the exposure at Howard where it's like you can make a way out of no way ... day in and day out ... that really set me on a course of success, quite frankly," Black said.

While at Howard, she knew she wanted to focus on public relations, so she landed an internship in corporate public relations at DuPont USA, a chemical and healthcare conglomerate. At 19 years old, she was incredibly steadfast in creating her future and interacted with the higher-ups at the company.

"Because of my can-do attitude and the confidence that was instilled in me from Howard, they were always so impressed with how I carried myself at that age," Black said. "So, I got more opportunity because of it."

After earning her M.B.A. from Clark Atlanta University, Black went on to work as a brand manager at Johnson & Johnson, where she helped launch Splenda. But it was always the plan for Black to leave the corporate world to focus her attention on the diamond business that she and her husband, a second-generation jeweler,



Philadelphia Diamond Company's Queen Cut diamond



started almost 15 years ago and to spend more time with her elderly parents and two young sons. This past February, she did just that.

Black has been working to make their business appealing to millennials with many customization options, appointment-only services and their Queen Cut diamonds. This business model differs from the retail storefront they ran back when they'd first started, and she said that she is excited to see how their business continues to grow.

"Your version 1.0 is not going to look like your final success, because you have to learn," she said. "You have to fail and adapt." ■HU

Kamala Harris

California Attorney General

By Katti Gray

The first time Kamala Devi Harris (B.A. '86) ran for office, she was elected freshman representative to a student council for liberal arts majors at Howard University.

She's come a long way since then.

Right now, the multitasking politician and policy influencer juggles being California's first female, African American-South Asian American attorney general with her quest to become the Golden State's first Black, female U.S. senator.

"One of the things I realized—since I was active in student government up until today—is the need for diversity," Harris said. "We need to have more women in these highest offices where so many decisions that are made impact women."

On Nov. 8, Democrats Harris and U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez face off in the first-ever U.S. Senate race involving two Californians from the same party. A relatively new California law allows top vote-getters in state primaries—no matter their party affiliation—to run in the general election.

Early one summer evening, Harris was speaking about those senatorial aspirations, her winning lawsuit against a for-profit college, hopes of lowering

college student debt and other concerns. Her day had started at 5:20 a.m. She'd worked out and eaten breakfast, then leaped into a spate of activities.

There'd been meetings with state lawmakers over anti-human trafficking legislation—her office has prosecuted traffickers—and with California Department of Justice staff members about assorted crime and justice matters.

At a San Diego funeral, she'd eulogized a police officer shot to death in his patrol car.

"There is no question in my mind that there should be serious, swift, severe accountability for the person who did that," said Harris, who was elected California's chief prosecutor in 2010.


She knows that policing in America is a fraught topic.

"I reject," she added, "the false choice that you either are soft on crime or tough on crime. I reject the myth that says Black folks don't want law enforcement. We don't want racial profiling, excessive force. But we want law enforcement."

Born in Oakland, California, and reared by her mother, a scientist and immigrant from India, Harris said being on Howard's campus "during those formative years" was central to her development as a Black person.

At Howard, she'd joined the push for affirmative action and for U.S. corporate divestment credited with toppling South Africa's economy, and thereby, its apartheid government. She'd won a scholarship for her debating skills.

The Howard Woman is "a role model, leader, inspiration, inspired, intelligent Black woman," Harris said.

"The thing that Howard taught me is that you can do any collection of things, and not one thing to the exclusion of the other," Harris said. "You could be homecoming queen and valedictorian. There are no false choices at Howard." ■ 



COURTESY OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Alumni Profiles

Cathy Hughes

Founder and Chairperson, Radio One

By RaNeeka Claxton Witty

Had it not been for the support of the Howard University School of Communications in her early professional years, Cathy Hughes said she wouldn't be where she is today.

A Howard University Honorary Doctor of Human Letters degree-holder, Hughes mothered a son at 16. She went on to become founder and chairperson of Radio One, the largest Black-owned American media company with holdings in radio, cable television and digital media. The multibillion-dollar company owns and operates 56 radio stations in 16 U.S. markets.

"If you can believe it, then you can achieve it," Hughes said. "There's no stopping you; I don't care what it is."

And achieve, she did. When her son, Alfred C. Liggins III, was only 6 years old, Hughes got the call from Howard University. Tony Brown, founding dean of the School of Communications, offered her a job as one of the school's first lecturers. Hesitant about moving her son from the comforts of her hometown of Omaha, Nebraska, she took the position and focused her energy on assisting students.

"When you really concern yourself with the development, nurturing and fostering of the career goals of other

individuals, the greatest beneficiary is yourself," Hughes said.

She recalls Brown charging her with coordinating the School of Communications' first conference in the '70s, at the tail end of the riots and civil rights demonstrations. Brown had one stipulation: Each vendor had to be prepared to hire students on the spot. Students traveled from Spelman, Morehouse, Bowie, Cheyney, Lincoln, Hughes said, to take part. About 50 students were placed into summer internships and full-time positions.

The Howard Woman is "brilliant, compassionate, highly socially conscious, well-dressed and beautiful," Hughes said.

"It was not Howard University opening a door for the students of the School of Communications; it was Dean Brown kicking down the walls and allowing students to [break into the industry]," Hughes said, that benefited all Black colleges and universities.

Little did Hughes know that past

Howard President James E. Cheek would kick down the walls for her, in 1973, by making her general sales manager at the University's radio station, WHUR-FM, and sending her to a summer program at Harvard University for training. By 1975, Hughes was the first female vice president and general manager of a station in the District of Columbia, creating the "Quiet Storm" format. From there, she launched Radio One.

Hughes received the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Howard in 2005. Though she didn't graduate

from Howard, she said she felt like a part of the community.

"Howard was gracious beyond expectations to me," she said. "The education that Howard University provided to me is what I use today to operate my own multibillion-dollar company." ■HU



COURTESY OF RADIO ONE



COURTESY OF UNDER ARMOUR

Adrienne Lofton

Senior Vice President, Global Brand Management, Under Armour

By Tamara E. Holmes (B.A. '94)

When Adrienne Lofton (B.B.A. '99) was on the women's volleyball team at Howard, she understood how athletic wear could improve her game.

"It spoke to me as an athlete in a way that gave me confidence to get out and be my best self," she said.

Today, Lofton is sharing that message with a new generation of athletes as a senior vice president of global brand management for Baltimore, Maryland-based performance apparel company Under Armour. In her role, she helps to shape how Under Armour is perceived around the world.

"We think about our consumer and deliver products, services and stories that help drive our brand forward and really become an integral part of our athletes' lives," she said.

Howard students are benefiting from Under Armour's leadership in providing performance benefits to college athletes on all playing fields. In May, Howard and Under Armour announced that Under Armour would design apparel for 19 of Howard's men's and women's varsity athletic teams.

The partnership brings together two organizations that have played a meaningful role in Lofton's success.

She's come a long way since her days as a student in the School of Business. After graduating from Howard, Lofton started as an associate brand manager at the Gap, and has held positions at General Motors, Target and Levi Strauss & Co., in addition to her role at Under Armour.

While being a woman in a male-dominated field is not easy, Lofton has discovered her own recipe for success. Rather than focus on the differences between herself and others, she has always sought to bridge the divide.

Another key to her ascension on the corporate ladder has been her willingness to seek advice from others.

"Ultimately, it's about being determined, being goal-oriented and having mentors around you who can help you shape your career and make the right choices," she said.

While at Howard, Lofton became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and that experience helped her to understand the importance of having a

network of women to offer support and encouragement.

"The women who brought me through that organization are some of the strongest and most confident women who understand how important a network is for success," she said. "I think my ability to understand the depth and the bravery of Black women started at Howard." ■HU

Howard Women are "the most confident and determined women that I've ever known,"
Lofton said.

Simone Missick

Actress, Misty Knight in Netflix's Luke Cage

By Kurt Anthony Krug

Although Simone Missick (B.A. '03) has been acting professionally since 2003, she's never had any standout roles.

Until now.

Missick plays Misty Knight, a police detective with a bionic arm on Netflix's *Luke Cage*—a Netflix Original series. The series, which is part of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, premiered Sept. 30. For Missick, playing Misty is something she calls “wildly exciting” and admittedly scary.

“But just a little,” confessed Missick, of Los Angeles. “Nobody tells you you’re gonna play a superhero all the time when you’re a woman. You could play the wife or the girlfriend or the funny best friend, but to play a superhero is like, ‘Really? YES! I will do that.’”

Misty joins forces with the steel-skinned, super-strong Cage (Mike Colter) in the war on crime. At times, they find themselves at odds and there’s just the right amount of romantic tension between them to keep things interesting.

“She’s just so smart, funny and sarcastic and strong,” Missick said of her character. “You don’t necessarily see that, especially with women of color, without there being some unnecessary stereotype.”

Missick always dreamed of being an actress. But it wasn’t clear how she’d pursue it until she took Professor Kim Bey’s

introduction to acting for non-majors class. After that, her career path was set.

“[Bey] picked up on the desire and determination I had. I’d often check in with her and [took as many classes as I could]. ... When I graduated, she helped me decide to move to L.A.,” Missick said. “It was that constant nurturing, that belief, that encouragement she gave me that made me feel like this was something I could do professionally.”

Missick realizes she’s now a trailblazer, given the importance of her role as Misty. She also pointed out that she’s not 21, nor a model ... who’s all legs. Instead, she described herself as a “little brown girl from Detroit.”

“(It) feels so great to be able to share that with other little girls around the world who want to pursue not just acting, but whatever their dream is,” she said. ■HU

The Howard Woman is “proud of her hair, natural or straight. She is comfortable in her skin, in all its shades of ebony. She is tapped in to her community, giving back during her summer. ... She is an outspoken Black Lives Matter organizer. ... She is the woman who can debate with you on who ‘slayed’ on the red carpet and, in the next moment, enlightens you on the United States’ political role in the destabilization of the Middle East. ... She. Is. Everything,” Missick said.



MYLES ARONOWITZ/NETFLIX

'70s



Carmen (Jones) Hill, B.A. 1972, was selected as the president of the Multicultural Real Estate Alliance for Urban Change. This alliance is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of real estate professionals and property owners who address issues that concern the South Los Angeles community, such as redlining, foreclosures, increasing minority homeownership and affordable housing. The organization, which will soon celebrate its 25th anniversary, formed in 1992 after the Los Angeles riots.

'90s

Kia Bennett, B.A. 1998, was elected to be a governor on the Board of the Washington, D.C., Chapter of the Recording Academy (GRAMMYS). She will continue to serve the music community in outreach and membership, education and advocacy. Bennett recently had stellar soul and jazz performances at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.



Lieutenant Colonel LaJohnne Alexa White Morris, B.A. 1998, has been assigned as the staff judge advocate for the Office of Staff Judge Advocate, U.S. Army. She serves as the legal adviser to the two-star commanding general for the U.S. Army's National Training Center and Fort Irwin, located in Fort Irwin, California, and professionally develops and supervises all legal personnel assigned to the legal office at Fort Irwin. White Morris earned her J.D. in 2006 at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco and earned her LL.M. in military law with a concentration in administrative law from the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in 2010. She is currently barred to practice law in California and the District of Columbia.



Nations with the highest yield for women in the Fall 2016 incoming class: Jamaica, Nigeria, Nepal, Trinidad and Tobago, Bangladesh, Barbados, Chad, Ethiopia, Guyana and Madagascar

'OOs

'IOs



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Dr. LaPrincess Brewer, B.S. 2003, a cardiologist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, has been named a 40 Under 40 Leader in Health by the National Minority Quality Forum. The award honors the work of influential young minority leaders in health care.



Zina V. Peters, B.S. 2005, is a newly appointed American Psychological Association Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services pre-doctoral fellow. She is also a Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Policy fellow. The organization's fellowships were created by the American Psychological Association's Minority Fellowship Program, which aims to enhance its fellows' professional training in behavioral health services and prevention. The Minority Fellowship Program is funded by a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant. Peters was welcomed into the Minority Fellowship Program family in August 2015 at the American Psychological Association Convention in Toronto.



Hayley King, B.A. 2016, has been named a 2015 Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellow.

King will pursue a dual master's degree in international relations and public relations, before beginning her career of service as a U.S. diplomat.

The Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellowship program, which was established in 2003 as a joint initiative between the U.S. State Department and Howard University, aims to enhance the excellence and diversity of the U.S. Foreign Service.

Genetta Reeves, B.S. 2013, was awarded the Woodrow Wilson Georgia Teaching Fellowship. The highly competitive program recruits both recent graduates and career changers with strong backgrounds in science, technology, engineering and math—the STEM fields—and prepares them specifically to teach in high-need secondary schools.

Each fellow receives \$30,000 to complete a specially designed, cutting-edge master's degree program based on a yearlong classroom experience. In return, fellows commit to teach for three years in the urban and rural Georgia schools that most need strong STEM teachers. Throughout the commitment, fellows receive ongoing support and mentoring.



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Shannon Coombs, B.A. 2016, Brittany Galloway, B.S. 2016, and Layla West, B.A. 2016, have been named 2016 Fulbright Scholars.

Coombs and Galloway will complete English teaching assistantships in South Korea, while West will complete one in South Africa.

The Fulbright program was established in 1946 to increase mutual understanding between the United States and other countries through the exchange of people, knowledge and skills. ■IU

Bison Bookshelf

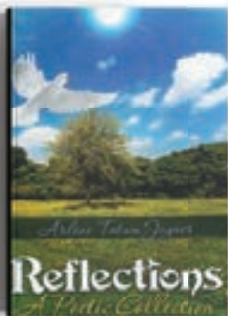


A Community of Voices on Education and the African American Experience: A Record of Struggles and Triumphs (Cambridge Scholars Publishing), edited by **Hazel Arnett Ervin** (Ph.D. '93) and **Lois Jamison Sheer**, is a collection designed to broaden understanding of the historically rooted education ethos within Black America.

Bury Me Come Sunday Afternoon (Quramo Publishing), by **Nike Campbell-Fatoki** (B.A. '99), is a short-story collection that depicts the struggles of young, ambitious and hardworking Nigerians abroad.



Reflections: A Poetic Collection (Dog Ear Publishing), by **Arlene Tatum Joynes** (B.B.A. '80), is a collection of poems spanning almost four decades about personal experiences and iconic figures.



Ambitions of a Bison (Blind Ambition Publishing), by **Ira Porter** (B.A. '03), is a fictional tale of the ways in which the lives of five Howard students intertwine.



American Shero (First Edition Design Publishing), by **Courtney Long** (B.F.A. '89), uses humor to give an honest look at the politics of romantic relationships in modern society.



To **submit a book** for consideration in **Bison Bookshelf**, please mail a copy to: **Howard Magazine**
2225 Georgia Ave., NW, Suite 822
Washington, DC 20059

For Lovers Only: A Cookbook and More (Sherry Winston), by **Sherry Winston** (Mus.B. '68), includes romantic food and drink recipes for two, along with recommendations for atmosphere and music to set the mood.



Eliminating Inequities for Women With Disabilities: An Agenda for Health and Wellness (American Psychological Association), by **Shari E. Miles-Cohen** (M.S. '92; Ph.D. '98) and **Caroline Signore**, explores and dispels myths about women and girls with disabilities by summarizing evidence and presenting examples of programs and policies that can help them achieve their full potential.



The Entertainer (Outskirts Press), by **Sandra Sully** (B.S. '68; MSW '70), is a suspenseful novel about a shocking crime at a local theater in a small town in Missouri.



Pineapple Sugar (Darby and Allen Publishing), by **C. Punch Brown** (Cynae Brown) (B.A. '01), is the story of a 12-year-old girl learning to deal with tragedy as she is forced to decide between resisting or embracing her harsh reality.



A Squirrel Tale (Profiles Studio), by **Janis B. Pinkston** (B.F.A. '77), is based on a true story of a squirrel that gets into the house, and how youthful ingenuity saves the day. Included are messages about kindness to animals, the consequences of war and peaceful harmony among humans.



The background of the entire poster is a collage of various sketches in a light, sepia-toned style. These sketches depict scenes of student life: a football player in a jersey with the number 10 running on a field; a large, diverse group of students cheering and raising their hands; a student with a long beard and dreadlocks; and other students in various poses, some holding books or papers. The sketches are layered and overlap, creating a sense of a busy, active campus.

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Shattering the Glass Ceiling of Academia

JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Howard breaks the mold when it comes to the appointment of women leaders

BY TAMARA E. HOLMES (B.A. '94)

Between 2006 and 2016, women earned more than 50 percent of all doctoral degrees in the United States. Women also outnumber men in the number of master's degrees, bachelor's degrees and associate degrees received, according to a 2016 report titled *Pipelines, Pathways, and Institutional Leadership: An Update on the Status of Women in Higher Education*, by the American Council on Education and the Center for Policy Research and Strategy.

Yet, when it comes to holding key leadership positions in academia, women are underrepresented. Women make up only 26 percent of the nation's college

and university presidents, and within the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences—an association of more than 500 four-year institutions—only about one-third of deans are women.

“When it comes to educational leadership, the higher you go up in the ranks, the fewer women you will see in leadership positions,” said Dawn Williams, Ph.D., interim dean of the School of Education.

However, Howard University is bucking that trend.

“Six of the 13 academic deans at Howard University are women,” said President Wayne A. I. Frederick.

“More than half of my Cabinet members are also women, while the Howard University Class of 2020 is made up of approximately 67.9 percent women. As Howard continues its legacy of identifying the most qualified professionals to lead this institution, we will also remain committed to ensuring that the legacy of the Howard Woman is one that transcends generational barriers and uplifts both local and global communities.”

Not only have those efforts made Howard stronger, but they ensure that Howard remains a trailblazer in the fight for equal opportunity for all.

53,000+

Number of application materials this cycle, including incomplete applications, that the Office of Admissions has handled



Dawn Williams, Ph.D.

The Push Toward Equality

The dearth of women in leadership roles is rooted in history. Like African Americans, women have had to fight for equal rights in the United States and only achieved the right to vote in 1920.

“Whenever there’s a group that historically has been marginalized, it may take them a long time to be able to catch up in terms of receiving equal opportunities,” said Danielle Holley-Walker, J.D., dean of Howard’s School of Law. Even when women made political progress, many paused their career advancement when raising children, said Toyin Tofade, Pharm.D., M.S., BCPS, CCPC, dean of Howard’s College of Pharmacy. “In the U.S., many females have sacrificed careers they might have had for the males,” she said.

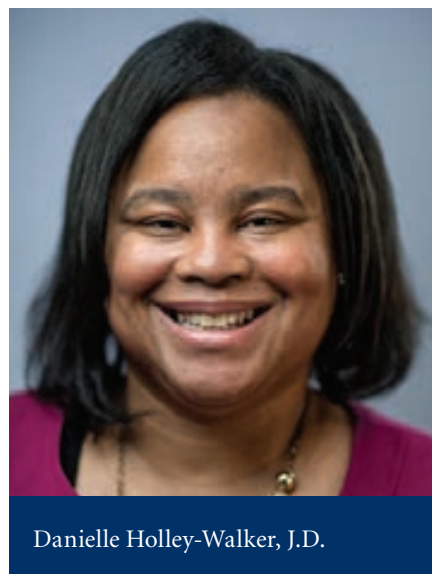
With fewer women in leadership positions, there is also a lack of mentors to support younger women.

“Many of the decision-makers in executive positions are men, so if their mentees are other males, it creates an opportunity for them to be promoted for higher positions while women may not have that same type of network,” Williams said.

It’s important to note that the exclusion of women from leadership roles is not necessarily intentional, said

Laura H. Jack, M.B.A., vice president for development and alumni relations at Howard. “People tend to hire folks that look like them, so if you’re a male, chances are you’re going to look for a male candidate,” she said. “It may not be that you have anything against women, but unfortunately it’s an unconscious bias that people tend to have.”

For that reason, a successful attempt to diversify the ranks must be intentional, which may explain why Howard has been able to do what so many other colleges and universities have not.



Danielle Holley-Walker, J.D.

JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Toyin Tofade, Pharm.D., M.S.,
BCPS, CCPC



Laura H. Jack, M.B.A.



“Stand by your
values, and
don’t change
who you are,”
Jack said.

Gracia Hillman



Gina S. Brown, Ph.D., R.N., M.S.A.



Gracie Lawson-Borders, Ph.D.



Carrolyn J. Bostick, M.A.



Florence Prioleau, J.D.



Sandra Edmonds Crewe, Ph.D., ACSW



“There will be days where you don’t feel successful or appreciated or heard, but if you stay true to your beliefs, you can rest assured that you did your best,” Jack said.

Equal Opportunity for All

It seems fitting that Howard would be a pioneer in gender equality. After all, the University has always fought to open doors of opportunity and understood the value of diversity.

“Any time you have diversity in your workforce, that makes your workforce stronger and better,” said Carolyn J. Bostick (M.A. ’88), vice president and chief human resources officer. “Having women in key roles adds a different perspective. We are trying to make sure that we take advantage of all the perspectives that we have at Howard—women, different nationalities, men, different generations.”

What does that mean on a practical level? “Conversations are different when there are women in the room,” said Gracia Hillman, vice president for external affairs. “I was in a discussion where there were three women and three men. The women saw the opportunity very different than the men saw it. There would have been a very different outcome if we had approached it strictly their way or strictly our way.”

Women have unique qualities that make them well-suited for leadership, said Gina S. Brown, Ph.D., R.N., M.S.A., dean of Howard’s College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. Not only are women strategic and organized, but “women can multitask. We’re built to have a baby on our hip, stir a pot and hold the phone under our ear at the same time.”

Diversity also helps with recruitment efforts. “One of the things that brought me to Howard was Dr. Frederick’s stated commitment to hiring more women as deans and more women into his cabinet,” said Holley-Walker. “To reach those goals, you have to have very concrete action steps, and I think that’s what we’ve done at Howard.”

The fact that so many women are in leadership roles speaks volumes to the rest of the world. “It helps send a message to the international audience that is looking to the U.S. to lead,” points out Tofade. “There are some cultures where a female doesn’t even go to school.”

It also has a powerful impact on Howard students. “Women of all ages see themselves in the leadership of the University,” said Sandra Edmonds Crewe, Ph.D., ACSW, dean of the School of Social Work. “The focus can shift from breaking barriers, being the first, to influencing positive outcomes.”

Some students may not even realize how significant it is to see women in positions of power until years down the road when they are given the opportunity to lead, said Gracie Lawson-Borders, Ph.D., dean of the School of Communications. “They’ll say, ‘Of course I can do this, because I have witnessed this before. This is not an unknown.’”

Lessons From the Leaders

One of the greatest gifts this sisterhood of leaders can share is a wealth of knowledge for the next generation. After all, they each know what it is to shatter glass ceilings in their career progression.

Confidence and authenticity are key, said Jack. “Stand by your values, and don’t change who you are. There will be days where you don’t feel successful or appreciated or heard, but if you stay true to your beliefs, you can rest assured that you did your best.”

Another important trait is perseverance, said Florence Prioleau, J.D., vice president and secretary/general counsel. “You’ve got to want to be there. You’ve got to want to be successful.”

Women also must learn the art of self-promotion, something that many men seem to be more comfortable doing, Prioleau said. While women are often hesitant to talk about their achievements because they feel like they’re bragging, “there’s a way to talk about what you’re doing without sounding boastful or arrogant. You’ve got to let them know the value you bring to the business.”

Women should also not be afraid to take the next step, and trust that current experiences are preparing them for future challenges, said Hillman, who has held such positions as executive director of the League of Women Voters and senior coordinator for International Women’s Issues for the U.S. Department of State. “When I got tapped for the State Department, I said, ‘Now I know why I was at the League of Women Voters. It was to help me be ready for the position at the State Department.’”

While the success of all of these women places Howard in the forefront of gender diversity, the University is not resting on its laurels.

“At Howard, we do have a number of women who are deans and who are vice presidents, and that is putting us on the right trajectory,” said Lawson-Borders. “As we continue to move forward, we look for that day when there will be a woman who is either provost or president.” ■HU

The Howard Woman

“Howard University gave women the encouragement to be their best selves.”

BENAREE PRATT WILEY



Benaree Pratt Wiley (B.A. '68)

is principal of The Wiley Group, corporate director and trustee. She is also vice chair of the Howard University Board of Trustees. For 15 years, Pratt Wiley was the president and CEO of The Partnership, Inc., an organization that strengthened Greater Boston's capacity to attract, retain and develop talented professionals of color.

Also a graduate of Harvard Business School (MBA), Pratt Wiley served as a consultant with such corporations as Abt Associates, Contract Research Corp. and Urban Systems Research and Engineering. She then combined her interests in business and child development and established the high-end toy store Giocatolli on Martha's Vineyard.

Pratt Wiley is a director on boards of the Dreyfus Mutual Funds, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts and CBIZ (NYSE). She has served as the chair of PepsiCo's African American Advisory Board, and formerly the board of First Albany (NASDAQ). Her civic activities include serving on the boards of Howard University, Dress for Success Boston and the Efficacy Institute.

Even in the '60s, a Howard Woman was “encouraged, as a woman, to develop” her talent, her leadership and do what she could do to make a difference within her nuclear and border communities, Pratt Wiley said.

Howard University gave women the encouragement to be their best selves, she said. ■IU

Barbara (Johnson) Dixon, M.Ed., M.S., M.F.T. (B.A. '07)

is an instructional coach and English Language Arts co-department chair at KIPP New Jersey: TEAM Academy, formerly an educator with Teach for America. Dixon provides individual, couple and family therapy by leading parenting classes for men and women in residential correctional facilities as they transition from incarceration back home. She is also an American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy “Now Is The Time: Minority Fellowship Program-Youth” recipient. ■HU



“A Howard Woman is a woman who dares to step outside of her comfort zone and works relentlessly to achieve her goals,” Dixon said.



Gwendolyn Stewart King (B.A. '62)

is president of Podium Prose, a speakers bureau and speech writing service, in Washington, D.C. She was previously senior vice president of corporate and public affairs for PECO Energy Co. from 1992 until her retirement in February 1998. From 1989 to 1992, she served as the 11th Commissioner of the Social Security Administration.

President Ronald Reagan appointed King as deputy assistant and director of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House from 1986 to 1988. While there, she was appointed to the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise and, later, the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development. President Bill Clinton appointed her to the Commission on the Social Security Notch Issue, and President George W. Bush appointed her to the Presidential Commission to Strengthen Social Security.

Prior to her presidential appointments, King directed Pennsylvania Gov. Dick Thornburgh's Washington, D.C., office for the six years following her service as senior legislative assistant to U.S. Sen. John Heinz.

King is a director of Lockheed Martin Corp. and Monsanto Co. She served as a director of Marsh & McLennan Companies until May 2011, and was a trustee of the Barnes Foundation until June 2012. ■HU



Andrena Sawyer (B.A. '08)

is founder and CEO of P.E.R.K. Consulting, a Maryland-based firm that specializes in program development and capacity-building support for nonprofits and small businesses and seeks to provide quality and affordable services for small to mid-sized organizations. In 2015, Sawyer was a recipient of the International Alliance for Women World of Difference 100 Award, which recognizes those who have made a significant contribution to the economic empowerment of women. ■HU

The Howard Woman

"A Howard Woman says what she means and does what she says. I will be forever proud to be one."

ARLENE ISAACS-LOWE



Arlene Isaacs-Lowe, CPA, CFA (B.B.A. '81) is managing director at Moody's Investors Service. She has shifted industries from military contracting to real estate investments, to insurance to credit analysis, from entrepreneurship to a range of corporate cultures, and diverse and successful roles in financial services. Most recently, she has expanded her portfolio of responsibilities by embracing a significant international assignment to expand business and strengthen her Fortune 500 institution's competitive position in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

What Isaacs-Lowe is particularly proud of is her ability to maintain authenticity as she has advanced. Her commitment to philanthropy has never wavered and she has made meaningful contributions to improve the lives of others who are less fortunate by blending financial acumen with social responsibility through board service at major nonprofit organizations.

At Howard, Isaacs-Lowe understood the responsibility of service and the obligation to stand up for what she believed and learned that she was from a great people, capable

of overcoming any challenge. That knowledge allowed her to be courageous and confident, even when faced with adversity.

"A Howard woman says what she means and does what she says. I will be forever proud to be one," Isaacs-Lowe said. ■HU



Mildred Beam (B.B.A. '89)

oversees the management of all legal affairs at Orlando Health (a major hospital health care system in Orlando,

Florida), including federal and state regulatory compliance, corporate business, transactional law, patient care, employment, real estate, liability

and insurance, construction and medical affairs. She also has operational responsibility for the organization's clinical research and risk management functions. ■HU

Michiel B. Perry (B.B.A. '10)

is the founder and curator of Black Southern Belle, a lifestyle brand focused on African-American women who have a Southern connection. Black Southern Belle has successfully created the only brand dedicated to Black Southern living; strategically connected Black-owned vendors in the South; launched an online store; created a job database for those looking for careers in the South; planned two sponsored Southern Tastemaker Summits (Charlotte and Atlanta) and one major conference (Charleston) in 2016; and launched Black Southern Belle Collective, a curated membership network and showcase for top Southern vendors. ■HU

"A Howard Woman is taught to serve her community and to highlight diverse and unique African-American culture, including the HBCU community of the South," Perry said.





Alize V. Beal (B.B.A. '12) is a community outreach manager for Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City. She started the role after leaving the Mayor's Office as the Manhattan borough director in the Mayor's Office Community Affairs Unit to help the organization recruit and retain more African-American mentors. Beal has also started a book scholarship for high school seniors from New York who attend an HBCU. She has awarded five \$1,000 book scholarships. This year, she will award the winner a \$3,000 scholarship.

"The Howard Woman is one (who) does not settle (for) average," Beal said. "She is one (who) is not afraid to push the envelope, dares to be different and unapologetically herself. That level of confidence is contagious and you feel it the minute you step onto campus. You know that, from that moment, you have no choice but to be the best version of yourself." ■HU



Lenora Robinson Mills (B.B.A. '06), former Wall Street investment banker, is a career changer into the field of education. After working on Wall Street for several years, she realized that she was not fulfilled because she was not serving her community. Robinson Mills wanted to do work that addressed her personal passion for education. That's when she made the career change. She has managed operations at Harlem Village Academies, and is now chief operating officer of the DC Public Charter School Board. She works to improve the quality of education for families in Washington, D.C. ■HU

"I believe a Howard Woman should exemplify all pillars of the Howard experience: leadership, excellence, truth and service," Robinson Mills said.

‘My choice to be here, working for this publication, is a deliberate one.’

9 Howard alumnae find their place as Black women at top-notch, glossy magazines

BY KATTI GRAY

As U.S. newsrooms have shrunk and the count of Black journalists has fallen, some Howard alumnae remain on the job, ensuring that the highs, lows and complexities of Black life get deemed newsworthy and get covered.

Mainly graduates of the School of Communications, those newswomen—and women raking in revenue on the business side of things—talked with *Howard Magazine* about what drives their work at some of the nation’s most venerable publications.

Black women at an ‘iconic’ Black magazine

Marielle Bobo (B.A. ’01) once earned paychecks from *Vogue*, *Harper’s Bazaar* and other White-run, largely White-read international magazines. But to her kinfolk, she wasn’t a major player “until I got to *Ebony*. That’s when my family says, ‘Oh, you made it,’” said Bobo, *Ebony*’s fashion and beauty director. “For a lot of us, *Ebony* is our iconic history.”

Other Howard alumni express similar thoughts about moving from marquee, mainstream news organizations to *Ebony*, where, they add, staffers are free to do what they couldn’t do elsewhere.

For example, said Ericka Goodman (B.A. ’02), of her recent interview of singer Alicia Keys: “There was this I-don’t-have-to-put-on, I-don’t-have-to-pretend air about her. ... With us, [Black celebrities] don’t think they have to feed into a formula. ... They can voice a reaction to social justice issues ... not that you don’t mention their drama, but the drama doesn’t define them.”

(Goodman left *Ebony* in August 2016, days after she talked with *Howard Magazine*.)



Marielle Bobo

As *Ebony*'s lifestyle director, S. Tia Brown (B.A. '00) melds her savvy as a journalist and a master's degreed, licensed social worker.

"At *Ebony*, I write for the relationships sections, the personal finance section and sometimes consult for the entertainment section," said Brown, who has been an entertainment reporter and is an expert guest on *The Dr. Oz Show*, CNN and MSNBC.

"I've wanted to be in a position where I can help people," she said. "I knew I wanted to both write for magazines and be a therapist. I love this work."

Ultimately, she aims for her own TV talk show.

At Howard, Brown said, she was encouraged to believe those kinds of big dreams can come true and to push boundaries of race and gender.

Even now, iconic *Ebony* faces racial barriers.

"There have been designers who didn't want to loan us their pieces," Bobo said. "They'll have a million and one questions about the fashion shoot. ... I have no problem with having a frank conversation about that with them: 'Is this how you want to be perceived? Not loaning to the premier publication for Black folks?'"

Kehinde Akiwowo (B.A. '99), an *Ebony* account executive, is a soldier in that battle: "My role at the company allows the writers to do whatever they need to do."

Akiwowo continues: "My choice to be here, working for this publication, is a deliberate one. ... Just as *Ebony* is at the apex of Black media, Howard is at the apex of Black higher education excellence. My parents planted in me the seed of Black excellence; Howard University germinated that seed."



The Howard Woman is

“... your sister ... role model, wife, secret-keeper, partner in crime, boss.”

– S. Tia Brown, lifestyle and entertainment director, *Ebony*



Ericka Goodman



Kehinde Akiwowo

The Howard Woman is

“... enterprising and resilient.”

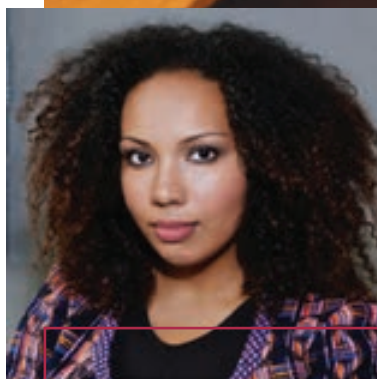
– Ericka Goodman, former fashion editor, *Ebony*



The Howard Woman is

“... someone who knows her integrity is not for sale.”

— Charreah Jackson, lifestyle and relationships editor, *Essence*



The Howard Woman is

“... a force to be reckoned with.”

— Jamilah Lemieux, former senior editor, *Ebony*

Likewise, said Jamilah Lemieux (B.F.A. '07), a former senior editor at *Ebony*, Howard “helped me to make real the ideals I held about belonging to the Diaspora and exposed me to some of the most brilliant, gifted people I’d ever hope to know.”

She editorialized mainly about race, gender and sexuality in pop culture and politics: “Black people need strong representation in the media from writers and publications that can speak to our issues, and to us directly. I’m proud to do just that.”

(Lemieux left *Ebony* in August 2016, weeks after she talked with *Howard Magazine*.)

Serving the audience, and showing advertisers an audience’s value

For *Essence* magazine, lifestyle and relationships editor Charreah Jackson (B.A. '07), among other duties, pens a column on living well. It’s laced with lessons she’s gleaned as a cancer survivor, a child of divorce, a child of God and a certified career coach striving daily to live purposefully.

Her Howard experience—she underwent chemotherapy while a student—stoked her fortitude. It helped her view sickness and other seeming defeats as momentary setbacks.

“I had the dream before I got to Howard’s campus. I didn’t have the muscle,” Jackson said. “Howard prepared me, groomed me. And not just in the mechanics of a career. It built my spirit. It sent me out strong.”



The Howard Woman is

“... Black girl magic. Personified.”

— Kim Smith, corporate accounts director, *Essence* magazine/Essence.com/Essence Music Festival

Strength is essential for workers in an industry remaking itself after years of falling revenues, said *Essence*'s corporate sales director, Kim Smith (B.A. '90). Part of her work at that organization involves dispelling some non-Black people's notions of how much currency a Black audience possesses.

Smith said she's "on the front lines, proving that this audience is ... worth a share of the (advertising) budget ... of (mega-festivals like) Coachella that don't target or speak to us. ... It's really exciting to watch what happens once they know this audience is not only a consumer, but an over-consumer of their product, and should be spoken to in a way that makes her feel like she is not taken for granted."

Likewise, Jackson knows *Essence* devotees want to be taken seriously, whether they're shopping for mascara, a job or a mate.

"I've always viewed my role as an editor, as a service position," Jackson said. "We're providing a place to decompress ... and discuss our relationships ... our health, home, children, grandparents. ... It's about telling people that the most radical thing you can do is love yourself, love another, love your family."

Being 'in the room' with (White) news industry decision-makers

After the U.S. Supreme Court's 2013 dial-back of the Voting Rights Act, Maya Rhodan (B.A. '12) told her editors in *TIME* magazine's Washington bureau that several layers of that headline-grabbing story needed to be unearthed.

"I said to my bosses, 'This decision impacts Black people and old people and young people in a particular way.' It's not that they weren't thinking about that," said Rhodan, the sole Black and youngest woman in that bureau at the time. "But the story I saw was a story that, initially, seemed low-impact to them."

Her editors at that 93-year-old, international publication gave the go-ahead for Rhodan's follow-up article on the fuller fallout from the Supreme Court's ruling. Having to school her white supervisors about what's in plain view for a Black journalist is one of the burdens she bears and a task she willingly assumes.

"You don't realize how different perspectives can be," Rhodan said, "until you are in the room discussing things that are first nature to you but might strike another person—who is not Black and not a woman—in a different way."



Maya Rhodan

Tailoring the storytelling

Karen Good Marable (B.A. '94) is one of those freelancers on whom the news industry increasingly relies.

In summer 2016 alone, the vaunted *New Yorker* magazine ran her “Remembering Sandra Bland’s Death in the Place I Call Home” essay. ESPN’s *The Undefeated* ran her news article on how Mississippi’s Black Dancing Dolls aren’t just Lifetime TV reality show characters.

Howard helped give Good Marable confidence to be her own self-directed, clear-eyed boss.

“The common thread is that I’m concerned about Black people,” Good Marable said.

“Those little dancing girls in Jackson, Mississippi—it’s important to know that their dancing is rooted in a culture. That their dancing has everything to do with Mississippi and the Southwestern Athletic Conference and the confederate flag still flying down there and them doing their thing.

“I’m not limiting myself to certain topics—because I do write all kinds of stories. But I am saying these are my favorite kinds of stories. I am here to tell those kinds of stories.” ■ HU



Karen Good Marable

“*The Howard Woman is*

... comfortable in her intelligence and in her blackness.

— Maya Rhodan, reporter,
TIME magazine, Washington bureau

... multidimensional, dynamic and powerful.

— Marielle Bobo, fashion and beauty director, *Ebony*

... exceptional; she made the bold choice of Howard.

— Karen Good Marable,
freelance writer

... prepared for the world she will step into, both personally and professionally.

— Kehinde Akiwowo, account executive, *Ebony* Media Operations

The Howard Woman

“As a wife, mother, professional and upcoming entrepreneur, [I] gracefully balance numerous responsibilities, which embodies the tenacious spirit of the Howard Woman.”

KISHA STEELE MITCHELL



Kisha Steele Mitchell, D.D.S. (B.S. '02; D.D.S. '06) is one of a handful of dentists in the U.S. who is a dual-trained orthodontist and pediatric dentist, which allows her to identify and intercept both dental and growth abnormalities in their beginning stages to minimize the severity. Mitchell recently joined a private practice in Charlotte, North Carolina, where she provides comprehensive dental care for children and orthodontic care for patients of all ages. She is keenly aware of health care disparities in dentistry and believes that all families deserve the specialized services for which she is trained. Therefore, she is committed to providing

excellent dental care to families of low socioeconomic status. She also aspires to work on a multispecialty craniofacial team that addresses the unique needs of patients with craniofacial abnormalities, such as cleft lip and palate.

Furthermore, in keeping with Howard's tradition of giving back, Mitchell intends to serve on the faculty in a dental school so she can instruct and mentor developing dental professionals.

“As a wife, mother, professional and upcoming entrepreneur, [I] gracefully balance numerous responsibilities, which embodies the tenacious spirit of the Howard Woman,” Mitchell said. ■HU



Jessica Blakely, D.D.S. (B.S. '06; D.D.S. '10) is a clinical instructor at the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine and an Army officer in the U.S. Army Reserve as a dentist. She mentors young girls aspiring to become dentists. She manages a dental blog, where she is known as @RealJessDDS and gives blog followers facts about dentistry.

Passionate about giving back, Blakely mentors young girls interested in becoming dentists. Blakely's next career goal is to become a practice owner while continuing to give back to the community and mentor the youth of Buffalo. ■HU

The Howard Woman

“[I am] the embodiment of the spirit of the Howard Woman, based on the HU principles of ‘Excellence, Leadership, Truth and Service.’”

GWENDOLYN ELIZABETH BOYD, D.RL.



Gwendolyn Elizabeth Boyd, D.RL. (M.Div. '07; D.RL. '13)

is president of Alabama State University. A native of Montgomery, Ala., Boyd graduated summa cum laude from Alabama State University with a degree in mathematics and a double minor in physics and music. Upon graduation, Boyd received a fellowship to pursue graduate work at Yale University, where she was the first African-American woman to earn a Master of Science in mechanical engineering. Boyd later earned both Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Howard University.

A noted engineer, Boyd began her tenure at Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory as a systems analyst in the Strategic Systems Department, and moved through the ranks to become the executive assistant to the chief of staff of the laboratory. In 2014, she became the first female president of her undergraduate alma mater, Alabama State University. Her other notable accomplishments include serving as the 22nd national president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., being nominated by President Barack Obama and receiving Senate confirmation to hold two prestigious positions: a trustee of the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation and a member of the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans. She is the consummate Howard Woman.

“[I am] the embodiment of the spirit of the Howard Woman, based on the HU principles of ‘Excellence, Leadership, Truth and Service,’” Boyd said. ■[HU](#)


The Howard Woman

"My development at the Mecca of Black Education shaped my view of the world, and I now have the wherewithal to conquer any task presented to me."

ANNTOINETTE S. McFADDEN

Anntoinette S. McFadden (B.S. '91; M.Ed. '93) used her education degree to transition into a career in divinity. She is a pediatric hospital chaplain. She has gone on to earn a Master of Divinity and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry. She is called upon to provide pastoral care to children and their families at a critical time, which is sometimes the end of a child's life.

McFadden is present, providing comfort, spiritual care and counseling for strangers at their greatest time of need. She serves with the totality of her being: spirit, soul and body. She uses her spirit to pray for others beyond the understanding of the physical realm. McFadden's soul grieves and provides compassion for others, and her body is used to relate to others through the human touch by hugging, holding hands and patting the shoulders or backs of those who are experiencing extreme grief and are in the need of comfort.

"My development at the Mecca of Black Education shaped my view of the world, and I now have the wherewithal to conquer any task presented to me," McFadden said. 



16

Number of women permitted to the School of Education's incoming class of 20 students

The Howard Woman


“The Howard Woman knows she stands on the shoulders of generations of Howard Women who came before her ...”

LISA BEALE



Lisa Beale (B.S. '88) is a career changer. After spending 10 years in technology and living through the dot-com crash in 2001, she moved back to Washington, D.C., ran operations and was a weight loss counselor for her father, the late Dr. Robert Beale (B.S. '64; M.D. '68), at his medical practice, Beale Medical Weight Loss.

Eventually, Lisa Beale did research and discovered the benefit of blending oils as a pre-shampoo treatment. Her formulation totally transformed her hair by protecting it from the drying, stripping and tangling that comes along with the cleansing process. She developed PrePoo for Hair, a deeply restorative pre-shampoo/hot oil treatment. Visit the website at www.prepooforhair.com.

“The Howard Woman knows she stands on the shoulders of generations of Howard Women who came before her, she understands the significance of the degree she has earned, she cherishes Howard University and she fully understands its vital role in educating women,” Beale said. 

The states and U.S. territories with the highest yield for the incoming class are as follows: New York, Maryland, Georgia, California, Illinois, Texas, New Jersey, Florida, Virginia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio, District of Columbia, Massachusetts, Delaware, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina and Connecticut

THE HOWARD WOMAN IN STEM

Women thrive in male-driven fields at the University

“... if there’s something that I think needs a change, then I’m going to be the one to change it.”

BY BRIAHNNA BROWN (B.A. '16)

No, STEM fields are not just for men.

From the beginning of the Obama administration, the president has called for getting more girls interested in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). He said women represent half the population but were underrepresented in these fields and were “not being encouraged the way they need to.”

Preethi Chandran, an assistant professor of chemical engineering at Howard University, said that such calls to action would help us diminish some gender-based stereotypes.

“All the campaigning is good so that women know it’s not abnormal to be good at math—it’s not abnormal to be expected to be good at math,” Chandran said.

“Our college is unique in that we have over 30 percent women as undergraduates, the majority of which are women of color,” said Achille Messac, dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture. “We have made significant progress in that area relative to other institutions.”

Even with the positive campaigning to get more women and girls involved in STEM, women in the field still face obstacles.

According to a recent Hastings Center for WorkLife Law study, 100 percent of women of color in STEM reported that they faced gender bias in the workplace and that bias was met with racial stereotyping as well, leading to what the study called a “double jeopardy.”

It is more common for women who earn Ph.D.s in STEM—a field where they are underrepresented in the workforce—to earn them from a historically Black institution, according to the American Institute for Research. Howard University is the top HBCU producer of African-American STEM Ph.D.s.

On the undergraduate level, Achille Messac, the recently appointed dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture (CEA), is excited about progress toward getting more women of color involved in STEM, and hopes to be a part of the institutional changes that need to be made.

“Our college is unique in that we have over 30 percent women as undergraduates, the majority of which are women of color,” said Messac. “We have made significant progress in that area relative to other institutions.”

“I am not at all satisfied with where we are, and I intend to redouble our pertinent efforts. We need a much greater percentage of women professors. We need to have a more institutional approach to mentoring women faculty in our college, and we need to transform our professional environment.”

Sonya T. Smith, director of innovation and strategic initiatives in CEA, describes being the first woman promoted into this position in the mechanical engineering department at Howard as bittersweet.

“I’m glad that I was promoted, but I’m sad that it’s 2016 and that was almost 10 years ago—we’ve not made any progress,” Smith said. “So we really have to do some work on climate and culture in some departments to make them more friendly and welcoming. Changes are happening and some of the interventions we have with the Advance program are helping.”

Howard University Advance-IT, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, is part of a national initiative that aims to increase the number of women faculty in STEM. Smith is the project’s principal investigator. Of the 71 faculty members in CEA, only 15 are women.

“One of the reasons why I wanted

JUSTIN D. KNIGHT



5.3

Percentage of women permitted to the College of Engineering and Architecture’s incoming class of 121 students



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

25
Average ACT score for
women in the Fall 2016
incoming class



Howard to participate in (the initiative) is because we have so few women in STEM, and particularly women of color,” Smith said.

Smith also shared how she is practicing what she preaches. In her lab, she has an African-American female postdoctorate, doctoral candidate, master’s student and two African-American female undergraduate students.

“That’s important to me—that I’m educating and bringing along the next generation of women in STEM. I could do that at no other place but Howard,” Smith said.

Michelle Warren (B.S.E.E. ’16) is one of the women in the next generation of STEM. While at Howard, she worked hard to get other women involved in engineering, despite the lack of representation in her own department, which has no women faculty members.

“Howard helped me to figure out that,

if there’s something that I think needs a change, then I’m going to be the one to change it, and I have to figure out a way

“That’s important to me—that I’m educating and bringing along the next generation of women in STEM. I could do that at no other place but Howard,” said Sonya T. Smith, director of innovation and strategic initiatives in CEA.

to see an ongoing change,” Warren said.

“When you’re in a position where it’s not a lot of people like you, you can’t really open up as a (woman) because you’re in a classroom full of guys with guy professors,” Warren continued.

“On one hand, the expectations of you

are lower and it’s kind of condescending; I can do what my counterparts can do.

On another hand, the expectations of you are a lot higher because you’re the only female representation.”

For two consecutive years, Warren served as the girls’ outreach chair of the Society of Women Engineers, which annually hosts “Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day,” an event that is open to high school girls in the Washington, D.C., metro area. Volunteers help the girls do engineering projects and see how they can become engineers themselves.

“This year was the best year,”

Warren said of her senior year. “The girls had such an amazing time. They felt so impacted and so much more inclined to do engineering.

“Us going out and doing what we didn’t have done for us makes a big impact,” Warren said. ■

THINKSTOCK

The Howard Woman

“... Howard Women alum are greater than the sum of our individual ambitions.”

CONSTANCE ELLISON, PH.D.

Constance Ellison, Ph.D.

(M.S. '86; Ph.D. '88) is associate dean for educational and research affairs with 35 years of dedication to the University under her belt. Ellison describes herself as a professor, a researcher, an administrator, a mentor, a mentee, a soror and a daughter of Howard. As a professor, Ellison is inspired and enriched by the student body. Teaching at Howard in the graduate program gives her the chance to watch graduate students transform into their career of choice.

The lesson that she learned later in life was “that Howard Women rally together in the same lane and toward a common endeavor, and that endeavor is what has gathered them in celebration of our collective achievements. All Howard Women are exemplary in their own way. There are really no words to express gratitude for all they do in this world. Many of them are role models, my role models, and make a huge difference in others' lives. The creed that we live by, as Howard Women, is humility, love, patience and trust. This is what we do. That is the Howard way. Here at Howard, we as Howard Women Alum are greater than the sum of our individual ambitions,” said Ellison. ■IU



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

The Howard Woman

“Howard Women are strong, persistent and we don’t allow setbacks or challenges to distract us from our goals.”

STACY RICHARDSON BURNETTE, J.D.

Sherri Blount Gray (J.D. ’80), a highly regarded intellectual property attorney at Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery LLP, who once served in the top management of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), focuses her practice on the intersection of IP and advertising and promotions law. She is an experienced transactional attorney and has negotiated hundreds of agreements involving the intellectual property rights of Fortune 100 companies, including issues related to brands, copyrights, licensing agreements, including software and content licensing, partnering and distribution, technology development, and technology transfer relationships. She is routinely called upon to advise clients on advertising and marketing strategies in traditional, digital and social media.

Blount Gray’s clients include corporations in multiple industry groups, including telecommunications and hospitality sectors, as well as trade associations, nonprofit organizations, colleges and universities. She counsels clients on matters related to compliance with advertising and marketing regulations at the state and national levels. Blount Gray regularly handles entertainment and media matters, such as television and radio production deals, program acquisitions, rights clearances, syndication, FCC content review and other related issues. ■HU



Gina Adams (J.D. ’83) (below) is senior vice president of government affairs for FedEx, the world’s top express package transportation provider, which serves more than 220 countries and territories with more than 400,000 team members and delivers more than 10 million packages daily. Adams educates administration officials and members of Congress as she shapes and promotes the political and policy interests of FedEx and its operating companies.

Before attending Howard Law, Adams attended Ballou Senior High School in the District, received a B.S. from American University and, after Howard, went on to earn a master’s in international and comparative law from Georgetown University Law Center. She began her career as a lawyer in the Attorney Honors Program at the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and spent nine years in the Office of the General Counsel. While at DOT, she was selected as a Department of Transportation fellow and later served on the Advisory Committee for the DOT Fellows Program. She has since taught



at George Washington University and served on the Governing Committee of the American Bar Association’s Forum on Air and Space Law. In May 1993, President Bill Clinton appointed Adams to the bipartisan National Commission to Ensure a Strong Competitive Airline Industry. ■HU

Stacy Richardson Burnette (B.B.A. ’88; J.D. ’92) (above) is senior director of government and regulatory affairs, at Comcast Cable. In 2013, after 20 years of working as an attorney and compliance officer, she quit her job because she was experiencing unbearable stress. Ten months later, she accepted an offer to work as a lobbyist. Burnette is responsible for negotiating multimillion-dollar contracts and lobbying politicians. Her position also has a community investment component that allows her to make decisions about corporate donations. As part of her job, she has the opportunity to support organizations and entities that make the world a better place to live.


“Howard Women are strong, persistent and we don’t allow setbacks or challenges to distract us from our goals,” Richardson Burnette said. ■HU

The Howard Woman

"She is changing the world in her own way, welcoming each challenge she faces as an opportunity..."

DR. JANINE A. CLAYTON

Dr. Janine A. Clayton (M.D. '89) is the director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Research on Women's Health and the associate director for NIH Research on Women's Health. Clayton has strengthened NIH support for research on diseases, disorders and conditions that affect women. She is the architect of a trans-NIH initiative to require scientists to consider sex as a biological variable across the research spectrum. Understanding both sexes will open the door to innovations in preventing disease, reducing health care costs and ultimately improving the health of women and men.

Clayton is committed to improving the health of women around the world so that we can continue to be the foundation of our families and the key to strong communities. 



"The Howard Woman is bold and strong, and like a diamond, she is precious and rare," Clayton said. "She is fearless in her approach, relentless in her pursuits and ever-evolving on her personal and professional journeys. As she strives to reach her goals, she recognizes those who came before and supports those who will come after. She is changing the world in her own way, welcoming each challenge she faces as an opportunity for learning and growth as a woman and a leader."

Janine A. Clayton, M.D.

The Howard Woman

“Howard Women are dedicated individuals [who] seek to exemplify excellence in the work that they do ...”

CHIMENE CASTOR, ED.D., CHES, MS.RD, L.D.N.

Annise (Cooper) Couloote (B.S.N. '98; MBA '01) is risk manager of a 408-bed hospital with a medical staff of more than 500 providers and 1,500 staff, across 17 ambulatory care sites in the D.C./Maryland area. She was director of nursing, worked for the Peace Corps and held the most senior nursing position at the D.C. Department of Disability Services. Couloote spent a year as a registered nurse in Howard University Hospital's emergency room.



“The exemplary Howard Woman sees no bounds in the limits of her profession,” Couloote said.



Chimene Castor (M.S. '01)

is a registered dietitian, certified in adolescent obesity training. She is an assistant professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences at HU and clinical coordinator for the dietetics program. As a dietitian and health educator, Castor believes the program has a responsibility to enhance the health of individuals, families and communities. “We should consider food as medicine to prevent and treat diseases. That is why I am passionate about the field of nutrition.

“Howard Women are dedicated individuals [who] seek to exemplify excellence in the work that they do, for the purpose of lifting the University, the community ... nationally and globally,” Castor said. ■HU



Nyuma M. Harrison (B.S.N. '00)

is an emergency and trauma nurse who has worked at the Howard University Hospital and at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, where she cared for victims of one of New England's biggest mass casualty incidents. Harrison has traveled to remote parts of Haiti, on the back of a pickup truck, and worked with medical mission teams to deliver care to almost 200 patients per day, at a clinic with no running water, one restroom and no air conditioning. She and her sister started a scholarship fund, Harrison Scholars Foundation, to benefit first-generation college students.

“I AM A HOWARD WOMAN. I am more than smart enough and good enough. I exude confidence in every setting. I thrive in the face of challenges, and I am resilient. I work hard, and I succeed on purpose,” Harrison said. ■HU

4.8

Percentage of women permitted to the College of Nursing & Allied Health Sciences' incoming class of 53 students

The Howard Woman

“By fully embracing the Howard within me, I... am no longer... afraid of what most people refer to as failure.”

— DAPHNE BUCHANAN BERNARD, PHARM.D. —

Daphne Buchanan Bernard (Pharm.D.

'97) has covered the full spectrum of the profession of pharmacy, from education to government regulation. She has served as one of the first alumni interim deans of the College of Pharmacy; established and served as the director of the Anticoagulation Management Service at Howard University Hospital; and provided regulatory oversight, helping to draft regulations and policies, and setting practice standards for thousands of her pharmacist colleagues as the chairperson of the District of Columbia Board of Pharmacy. ■HU

19

Number of nations
represented in the Fall 2016
incoming class



The Howard Woman

“Being a Howard graduate ... requires one to be a part of the change needed to better society in the place you are in and beyond.”

RUBY M. GOURDINE, D.S.W., LICSW, LCSW



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Ruby M. Gourdine (B.A. '69; D.S.W. '84) is a professor in the School of Social Work, has served as field director for more than 16 years and has continued to serve in leadership positions in the school. Gourdine was a sociology major during her undergraduate years at Howard University, with the goal of becoming a social worker. She has worked as a probation officer, as a child welfare intake worker, on Maynard Jackson's campaign to be the first Black mayor of Atlanta, and as a Roxbury Children's Service employee in Boston.

After leaving Boston, Gourdine went to Washington, D.C., to work in special-needs adoption and was recruited to pursue a doctorate at the Howard University School of Social Work, and joined the faculty.

Gourdine's scholarship and research have focused on disproportionality/disparate care of African-American children in the child welfare system, female development and disabilities.

A recent accomplishment is the published book titled (with Dr. Annie W. Brown) *Social Action, Advocacy and Agents of Change: Howard University*

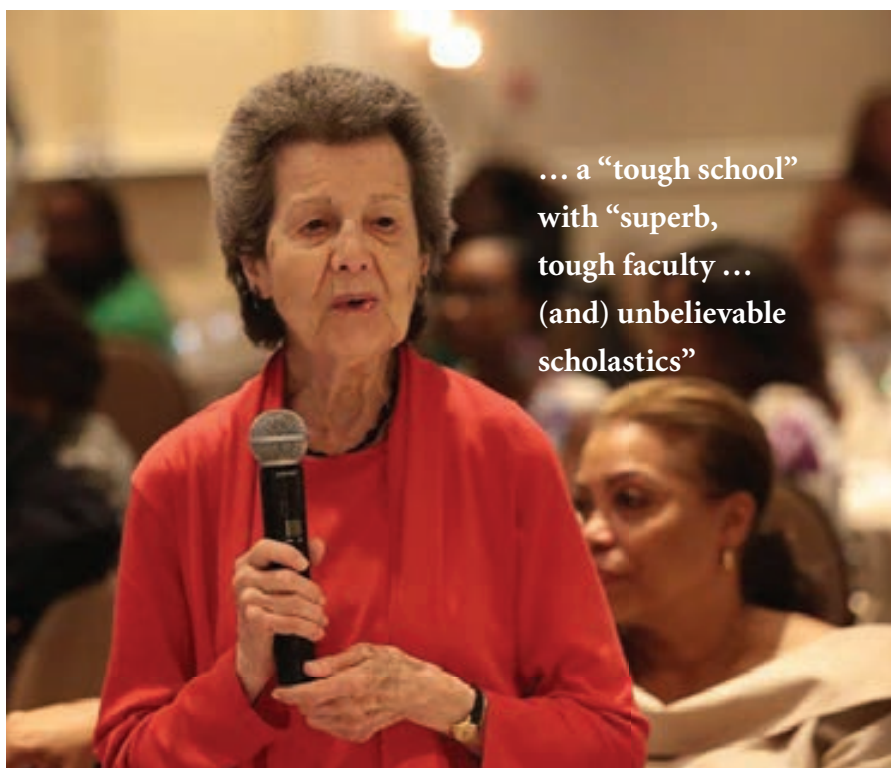
School of Social Work in the 1970s. This book provides a historical context for the change that took place in the School of Social Work, critical actors and the impending changes that made the curriculum more inclusive and compelled our social work professional organizations to declare their intent to be inclusive.

“Being a Howard graduate two times over requires one to be a part of the change needed to better society in the place you are in and beyond,” Gourdine said. ■HU



Mildred “Mit” C. Joyner (M.S.W. ’74)

has been an emeritus, director and full professor of social work at West Chester University of Pennsylvania (WCU) since June 2011. She served in this leadership role for 32 years, the first and only African-American director and chair to lead the social work department. While at WCU, Joyner was the catalyst behind the development of the M.S.W. Program, which was also the first accredited M.S.W. program in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Joyner conceptualized and secured funding for BEST (Bringing Elders and Students Together), so that all undergraduate social work students had positive exposure to the older adult population. Joyner created and developed the DeBaptiste Undergraduate Social Work Scholarship, in honor of the first African-American mayor of West Chester, Pennsylvania. Joyner’s last major contribution at West Chester University was to serve as the fundraising chair for the Frederick Douglass Statue. During the national financial crisis, Joyner raised more than \$215,000. In 2013, on the Clifford E. and Inez DeBaptiste Plaza, the Frederick Douglass Statue was unveiled at WCU. ■HU



Beatrice Leibenberg (M.S.W. ’58)

is a 96-year-old alumna who was originally taught by the late Dr. Inabel Burns Lindsay, the first woman dean at Howard. Leibenberg was one of only a handful of White students in the School of Social Work. As a Jewish woman, she attended Catholic University for a short period of her undergraduate studies, but said that she really wanted “to understand a culture that wasn’t (her) own.”

She described the University as a “tough school” with “superb, tough faculty ... (and) unbelievable scholastics,” and Burns Lindsay as “a brilliant woman.”

Leibenberg went on to work as a foster home finder, and later worked at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital and the Washington School of Psychiatry, where she is still a faculty member. ■HU

'30s

Daisy Etta Booker Douglas, B.S. 1938, died Nov. 6, 2015. After graduating from Howard, she taught home economics at Montclair High School for 26 years. She was 98.

'40s

Marjorie M. Baker, B.A. 1948, died Jan. 7, 2015. Following her Howard graduation, she earned a master's degree in English from Bryn Mawr College. She taught fifth and sixth grade at P.S. 15 in Springfield Gardens, N.Y., for more than 25 years until she retired in 1984. She was 88.

Phyllis Harper-Bardach, B.A. 1948, died Sept. 24, 2015. After graduating from Howard, she lectured on parent education in guidance and counseling at the Summer Institute for Parents of Preschool Deaf Children in Illinois. She later supervised the Parent-Pupil Tutor Program at the Illinois School for the Deaf and gained national recognition for the article "A Visible Speech Aid" in the *Volta Review*. Harper-Bardach earned a doctorate in educational administration at the University of Iowa and served as lecturer, supervisor of student teachers, teacher and consultant until she retired in 1990. She was 87.

Wilma Burton Campbell, B.A. 1942, died Feb. 3, 2015. After graduating from Howard, she joined the American Red Cross and served stateside and abroad for three years. She married and traveled for 27 years extensively with her husband and family, residing in Alabama, New Mexico, Turkey, Washington, D.C., Colorado and California. Burton Campbell's passions included photography, reading, attending

Tuskegee Airmen conventions with her husband, mahjong and enjoying life with her sorority sisters and friends. She was 93.

Virginia J. Edwards, B.S. 1947, died July 16, 2015. After graduation from Howard, she began a career in recreation with the YMCA. She then became a civilian recreation director and supervisor with the U.S. Army Special Services, where she worked in Germany before returning to the U.S. as a recruiter for the program, and later as an Equal Employee Opportunity investigator in Columbia, Maryland. Edwards later retired.

Marion Thompkins Ross, B.Mus. Ed. 1948, died Dec. 12, 2015. Following her time at Howard, she obtained her Master of Arts in Music from the Teachers College at Columbia University. She taught at Howard, in elementary schools in Fairfax County, Virginia, and in the District of Columbia. She was appointed principal of Mott Elementary School in 1973, and then LaSalle Elementary School until she retired in 1988. She was 88.

Marguerite Waddell Lucas, B.A. 1948, died Dec. 9, 2015. After graduating from Howard, she became an educator in D.C. Public Schools. She was 89.

'50s

Katherine Pulliam Crowder, B.A. 1950, died Nov. 28, 2015. Following graduation from Howard, she traveled the world with her husband, who was in the U.S. Air Force. She taught English, drama, history and debate at Don Julio Junior High School, where she developed curricula and was the community liaison for human relations in crisis situations. She spent 17 years working at every level of the Educational Opportunity Program, including acting director at California State University, Sacramento. She was 87.

Elizabeth Kelly-Fry, M.S. 1953, died Dec. 30, 2015. After graduating from Howard, she studied physiology at George Washington Graduate School. She became head of the Biophysics Section in the Office of Naval Research. From 1955, she worked at the Biophysical Research Laboratory of the University of Illinois, and from 1964, at the Interscience Research Institute in Champaign, Illinois. She later created the Fortune-Fry Ultrasound Research Lab at the Indianapolis Center for Advanced Research. Kelly-Fry earned her doctorate in science education from the University of Sarasota in 1975, and was appointed associate professor in the Department of Surgery and later professor in the Department of Radiology, Indiana University School of Medicine. She became professor *emerita* and received numerous awards. She was 97.

Foy B. Jones, D.I.P.N. 1959, died Oct. 25, 2015. She was a registered nurse who worked at several hospitals throughout New Jersey. Jones retired after more than 40 years of nursing. She was 77.

Dr. Eleanor Louise Miles, M.D. 1955, died Aug. 27, 2015. Following graduation from Howard, she was an anesthesiologist at a hospital in Dutchess County, New York, then at the United Hospital Medical Center in Port Chester, New York. She retired in 1995. She was 85.

Dr. Olive Yvonne Reynolds Wilson, B.Mus.Ed. 1958, died Sept. 15, 2015. After graduating from Howard, she became a music teacher at Marian Anderson High School. She went on to earn a master's degree in counseling from Tuskegee Institute. Reynolds Wilson earned a doctorate in counseling from the University of Pittsburgh. She was 79.

'60s

Estelle Abrams, DH.Cer. 1960, M.S. 1963, died July 2, 2015. After graduating from Howard, she worked as a researcher at the National Library of Medicine. She also spent several years working at the World Health Organization library in Geneva, Switzerland, training librarians on collecting medical articles and creating databases. Abrams was an accomplished sculptor and artist who volunteered as a tutor for schoolchildren. She was 89.

Dr. Judy Ann Christian, B.A. 1968, died March 24, 2015. Following her time at Howard, she became a professor and dean of the colleges of Education and Human Ecology and of the Arts and Sciences at University of the District of Columbia. She was a member of the Eastern Panhandle Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She was 95.

Marsha Fuller, M.S.W. 1969, died Oct. 15, 2015.

Neva Roberts, B.A. 1968, died Oct. 18, 2015. After graduating from Howard, she was a D.C. Public Schools foreign language teacher, completing a 22-year career at Dunbar Senior High School in 1992. She was 92.

Sylvia Jean Shaw, D.I.P.N. 1961, died July 25, 2015. Following graduation from Howard, she worked at medical facilities in Washington, D.C.; Atlanta, Georgia, and Bonham and Sherman, Texas. She was 77.

Brenda Lee Thompson Carter, B.S. 1969, died June 16, 2016. She worked for several years at the Food and Drug Administration in Washington, D.C., and then began her professional career in Montgomery, Alabama, as a laboratory technician for the Alabama Department of Public Health. Thompson Carter earned her Master of Public Administration degree from Auburn

University in Montgomery, Ala., and began working in public education with the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. She later culminated her professional career by serving as the director of academic programs for the commission, retiring in 2006. She was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for 49 years. She was 68.

'70s

LaVerne Duckwilder, B.A. 1971, died Nov. 20, 2015. She was 66.

Dr. Lorraine Gillian, B.S. 1971; M.D. 1977, died July 10, 2015. Upon graduation from Howard, she entered a four-year residency program at Howard University Hospital in Obstetrics and Gynecology. She was in private practice for 35 years in Prince George's County, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. She had affiliations with Columbia Hospital for Women, East of the River Clinic, Howard University Hospital, Prince George's Community Hospital and the Washington Hospital Center. Gillian was a fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. At the time of her death, she was a physician with the Women's Wellness Center at Medstar Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C. She was 65.

Pamela Washington, B.S. 1971, M.A. 1975, died March 29, 2016. After graduating from Howard, she worked for Exxon Mobil for several years, and then United National Bank. She also earned her medical billings certificate from Katherine Gibbs School in New Jersey. She was 67.

Roberta Wolfe-Bryant, MFA 1978, died Jan. 15, 2015. She was 65.

'80s

Dr. Getatchew Marsie-Hazen, M.D. 1981, died June 19, 2015.

'90s

Elaine Ah-Low, M.S. 1995, died July 2, 2015.

Valda Joyce Bobo-James, B.S. 1980, D.D.S. 1996, died July 30, 2015. She was 58.

'00s

Jaizelle Leshani Rome, B.Che.E. 2006, died May 14, 2015. Upon graduation from Howard, she began her career as a packaging engineer with P&G at its global headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio. After five successful years there, she relocated to the East Coast to work for Equity Packaging, Inc., gaining additional experience in the packaging engineering field. Her final career position was with Adept Packaging, in the Philadelphia area, as a senior packaging project manager. During her tenure at Adept Packaging, one of Rome's proudest accomplishments was being able to bring quality and lifesaving medication, most notably a portfolio of cancer medication, to remote villages across the Indian subcontinent. She traveled to Pune, India, to perform and design quality checks in the manufacturing facilities that produced innovative packaging for these critical medications.

Rome was committed to women's issues and social justice, often visiting classrooms in the Chicago area so that minority young girls could interact with an African-American female engineer. She was a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter. She was 31.



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