

FALL 17

HOWARD

magazine



THE HBCU ISSUE

The HBCU



HBCU Excellence has a plethora of faces.

The pertinent role it plays in placing Blacks in the arts, the judiciary and international spaces; the important weight it holds in cementing a spirit of activism within students; and the significant notion it embodies of continuing the HBCU graduate family tradition are literally only a sliver of the pie that is this phrase.

Howard Magazine decided to dedicate an entire issue to highlighting HBCU Excellence. In these pages, we invite additional HBCU voices besides our own to give their input, ultimately delivering a larger and more diverse conversation about the matter.

I urge you not to read these pages for your knowledge alone, but to share with others. It is through this kind of ongoing dialogue that we begin to enhance the discourse about the HBCU one discussion at a time for generations to come.

Excellence in Truth and Service,

RaNeeka Claxton Witty, M.F.A.
Editor-in-Chief

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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Dear Howard University Community:

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



As many of you know, far too often critics question the relevancy and value of historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to contemporary society. An interrogative that I believe is completely misguided. What is more troubling is the fact that many of these criticisms are not supported by data, or even worse, by citing data that is misconstrued.

Unfortunately, these criticisms exist even though it is well documented that HBCUs play a significant role in fostering the academic success of students of color in obtaining bachelor's and graduate degrees in STEM disciplines. HBCUs also have a strong history of making significant contributions to the racial diversity in professional fields including, but not limited to, law, politics, business and medicine.

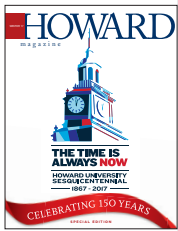
What is often overlooked by critics is the significant role HBCUs have played in developing individuals who are civically engaged and the role HBCUs have played in encouraging student participation on issues related to social justice. One of the many advantages HBCUs have in fostering civic engagement among their students is their strong history of serving as incubators of civil rights activity.

Despite the fact that HBCUs account for only 4 percent of higher education institutions in the U.S., we are responsible for 22 percent of bachelor degrees awarded to African Americans in the U.S. This outsized impact is even more prevalent in the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), where HBCUs are responsible for 34 percent of these degrees awarded to African-American students. The impact of Howard University alone is monumental in this regard. Over the past decade, according to data from the National Scientific Foundation, Howard University sent more African-American students to doctorate programs in STEM disciplines than any other institution in the country.

Additionally, Howard University sent 220 students over that same period compared to 222 that were sent from Stanford, MIT, Harvard and Yale combined. We send more African-American students to medical school than any other institution in the country. This is no small feat when you consider that fewer African American males applied to medical school in 2016 than in 1976. Despite the level of financial difficulties, our students represent the best of any higher education student in the United States, and we proudly have the most dedicated faculty leading them.

It remains our responsibility to infiltrate the media, our families and our communities with information that highlight the successes of and necessity of HBCUs. The challenge is in the moment. THE TIME IS ALWAYS NOW.

Bison Conversations



In the Winter 2017 issue, “The Time Is Always Now: Howard University Sesquicentennial 1867–2017,” we asked: *“Following the first 150 years of Howard’s existence, in what ways do you hope the institution will evolve during its next 150 years?”* Here are some of your responses:



“Power lies in continuity! In the next 150 years of evolution for Howard University, I hope for the continued strengthening of the values and legacy of the institution, the empowerment of our students and graduates in a world anew and the courage to fight on!”

— Roberta Jones-Booker (J.D. ’68)
Los Angeles, California

“I wish that Howard, for the next 150 years, will continue producing citizens with outstanding leadership, scholarship and character.”

—Chestina Mitchell Archibald
(J.D. ’71)
Atlanta, Georgia

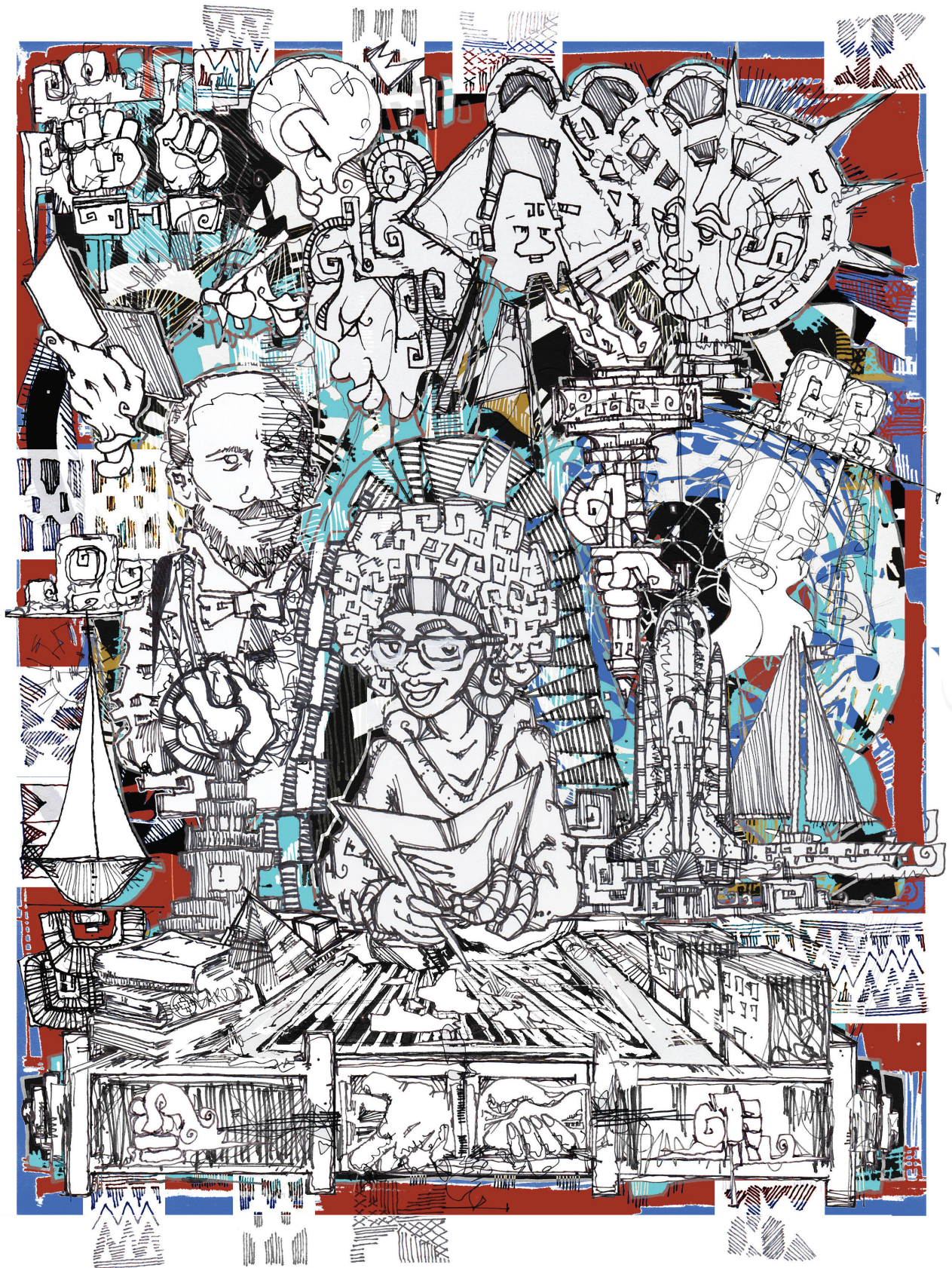


Here’s a new question:

What role do HBCUs play in advancing higher education and society?

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.





O'BARO

HBCUs, Howard and Human Transformation

By Gregory E. Carr, Ph.D., J.D.

As Howard's commencement orator on June 6, 1930, W.E.B. Du Bois tasked us with producing "unselfish thinkers and planners of a group of people in whose hands lies the economic and social destiny of the darker peoples of the world, and by that token of the world itself." Three years later, at his alma mater Fisk University's commencement, he said that our schools must use culturally grounded scholarship to transform American and global Black communities in order to restructure the radically oppressive economic and political arrangements of the societies of the modern world.

Several generations later, Howard and its sister Black schools continue to wrestle with Du Bois' call and challenge. The hedge of segregation has been removed, distancing an increasingly ambivalent Black elite from physical and economic proximity to the larger mass of Black America. Some elites still send their children to HBCUs, for cultural grounding and out of unyielding group commitments. Once there, they reintegrate with those lower in the socio-economic strata, though no less gifted, who seek improved life chances for their families and communities. HBCUs present America and the world with irreplaceable centers where post-integration Black thinkers and planners for African and human advancement are trained at critical mass.

This mix of obligation, aspiration and racial and socio-economic profile has no precedent in the American university outside of the HBCU valence. It reaches

its most concentrated mix at Howard, where nationally and internationally recognized faculty and students commune in arguably the country's most audacious blend of lowest to highest global economic variance. Howard and other HBCUs have succeeded in weaving group service across class, geographical-, racial- and cultural strands into a Kente-patterned tapestry of searches for truth through individual and group development. We are less distinguishable from our sister HBCUs in that regard than in our scale, scope and concentration. In those major differences, however, lie our central challenges and opportunities.

Altering the group trajectory of a collage of people bound together by radical imaginaries, structural oppression and collective trauma is unimaginable for predominately White institutions in a settler-colony turned experimental multinational state never designed to attempt such a thing. Even now, many would counsel Howard to abandon the attempt. However, now in its 150th year as a university of training mostly Africans to fill a staggering range of undergraduate, graduate, professional and post-graduate needs, dreams and obligations, Howard manages an absurd set of expectations. Self-inflicted wounding born of enslavement's legacy of learned self-contempt intermittently spurs too many of us to periodic despair, corrosive



distraction and unacceptably anemic financial support. Still, buoyed by trust in common purpose, we manage to rise.

Our service will not be found in data sets projecting algorithms for future labor markets or market trends, but in what Christian Madsbjerg calls "sense-making," or the cultivation of deep, complex, nuanced and transformative ways of thinking about the world. The service produced by what that alchemy engenders extends from a community of lives, in Du Bois' words, "lit by some larger vision." We have worked and we work, as our ancient Egyptian ancestors would have phrased it, in *Ma'at* (truth) and *Shemes* (service), to advance our common humanity. We may never meet Du Bois' challenge. But tomorrow is another day, in service to a people and a world, to try. ■■

Gregory E. Carr, Ph.D., J.D., is associate professor of Africana studies and chair of the Howard University Department of Afro-American Studies.

In Their Shoes

Closing the Black Educational Travel Gap One Student at a Time

Five Howard University students share their experiences participating in the first Alternative Spring Break project in Ghana



By Krystal Jacobs

junior, human development major

“True teaching is not the accumulation of knowledge; it is an awakening of knowledge.”

This African proverb adequately describes my state of mind in Ghana. My educational journey at Howard University felt affirmed in Ghana. This was my second time back to the continent, and similar to the first, I felt a sense of purpose. Dr. Booker Ammah welcomed us into her Ghanaian family by allowing us to touch the hearts of children she has impacted so greatly. Experiencing firsthand the culture and thirst for education in the Ghanaian children was inspiring. In the U.S., libraries and schools are looked at as basic resources. For others, they are a privilege not everyone receives. My studies could not prepare me for some of the realities children face in the midst of educational disparities. I am now determined to teach abroad after graduating Howard and continue to fight illiteracy in Africa.



By Beverly Booker Ammah, Ph.D.
faculty adviser for Alternative Spring Break Ghana

Being a product of an HBCU (Hampton University), I was thrilled to gain support and encouragement from the School of Education and Alternative Spring Break Howard to initiate the ASB Ghana program at Howard University this year. I had facilitated ASB Ghana for the past five years at my former institution. The ASB Howard Ghana motto is “Give. Gain. Grow.” The ASB Howard Ghana 2017 student team gave me a deepened sense of humbleness and gratefulness to take HBCU students to Ghana to do service-learning workshops at schools from a Pan-African framework. We provided 600 books to school communities, a non-governmental organization called MMOFRA, and to the University of Ghana. The exuberant reactions from the ASB Howard Ghana spring students solidified my desire and dream to take students abroad to develop leadership skills and civic engagement as a permanent commitment.

Keija Minor
(J.D. '99)

A DAY WITHOUT HOWARD is a day without Keija Minor, the first African-American to hold the editor-in-chief title with *Condé Nast* since its inception in 1909. Specifically, for *Brides* magazine, with a third of a million copies in circulation. Brides-to-be and imaginative little girls alike, this means a day without Minor's expertise on dresses, cakes, ceremonies, receptions and honeymoons.

By James June
sophomore, art major

ASB Ghana was truly a life-defining experience that has made my time at Howard all the more fruitful.

One of the schools we served was in the mountain town of Aburi. The school had few teachers but many family members volunteering to operate the school. I was honored to have played a role in the community—even just for a little while. I know now that my role as a servant leader has value both in my neighborhood as well as across the diaspora. Additionally, when visiting the University of Ghana, our group had the opportunity to bridge the gap between continental Africans and diasporan Africans through conversation with students; we were able to fellowship, debate and even party together. This was experiencing Pan-Africanism in real time. Overall, going to Ghana felt like home, and I'm blessed to have had the experience.



In Their Shoes

By Denys Symonette

(B.A. '11; M.S.W. '13), Howard University School of Law

Throughout my seven years of study at Howard University, I have chosen to serve ardently through the Alternative Spring Break service-learning engagement programs. For six years, I committed to service and advocacy at the highest level, having truly internalized the University's motto, *Veritas et Utilitas*, extending even beyond the pearly gates of the Mecca.

The most recent Alternative Spring Break sailed me back to the Motherland—the Gold Coast of Ghana. The global perspective that emerged with exploring this nation was the genesis of love. Its majesty enlivened the poetic words of the luminary W.E.B. Du Bois: "Freedom and vast salvation." The existential discovery afforded by the international experience further shaped my path as an advocate-scholar and burgeoning international human rights attorney, bringing to light a greater sense of diasporic-cultural awareness and enriching levels of consciousness. Delving into comparative legal studies while serving abroad provided me the chance to add voice to the conversation and convert insight to influence in a way that is virtually undiscoverable through any other means.



By Kayla Gardner

(B.A. '10; J.D. '17)

During my visit to Ghana, I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Raymond Atuguba at the University of Ghana School of Law. Dr. Atuguba provided a lecture on comparative law between the United States and Ghana. As a student volunteer, I conducted research to support Dr. Atuguba's participation on an anti-corruption panel titled, "The Accra Dialogue." The panel discussion was held at the Ghana Institute of Law and Public Affairs and featured prominent policy experts, a political scientist and a minister of parliament. The panel featured a discussion of what strategies may be implemented to reduce public corruption in Ghana. The most favored recommendation was the appointment of a special independent prosecutor to try cases of public corruption. But Dr. Atuguba's approach was more proactive in that he favors strategies to prevent corruption in addition to addressing current issues. He discussed the influence of transnational corporations, tax evasion by transnational corporations and traced illicit financial flows. Dr. Atuguba reasons that more regulation on these influences could greatly reduce political corruption.



Marlon Wayans

A DAY WITHOUT HOWARD means a day without the other half to a hilarious duo of brothers, Marlon Wayans. This means goodbye to the fan-favorite '90s sitcom *The Wayans Bros.* A day without Howard means no *White Chicks*, a hilarious comedy featuring Shawn and Marlon Wayans that grossed \$113.1 million. Just one day without Howard proves that television shows and movies would never be the same.

Alternative Spring Break 2017

This year, the Alternative Spring Break program, which is committed to serving communities in need and involving students in meaningful service, sent more than 500 students to the following community service projects:

- Accra, Ghana (civic engagement and leadership development)
- Port-au-Prince; Croix des Bouquets, Ouest; and Cap Haïtien, Nord, Haiti (construction and infrastructure development)
- Baltimore, Maryland (gang violence)
- Chicago, Illinois (gun violence)
- Detroit, Michigan (literacy intervention and mentorship)
- Dilley, Texas (immigration)
- Flint, Michigan (interfaith collaboration on social and environmental justice)
- Lumberton, North Carolina (crisis cleanup and cultural exploration)
- Memphis, Tennessee (poverty)
- Newark, New Jersey (high school retention)
- New Orleans, Louisiana (education and prison industrial complex)
- St. Louis, Missouri (social justice)
- Washington, D.C. (homelessness and HIV)

More than \$120,000 was raised through WHUR 96.3's Helping Hands initiative to support students in completing their service projects.



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Commencement 2017



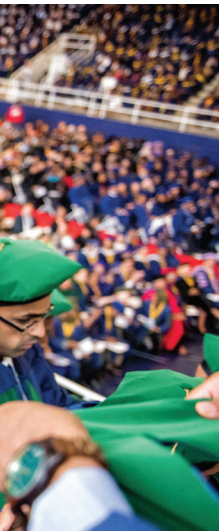
Sen. Kamala D. Harris (D-Calif.) (B.A. '86) addressed members of Howard University's 2017 graduating class at the University's 149th Commencement Convocation, and challenged them to go to the front lines to fight for the nation's deepest values of justice and equality.

Harris greeted more than 2,000 graduates at the commencement ceremony on Howard University's main campus.

Howard University President Wayne A. I. Frederick awarded an all-women roster honorary degrees in the fields of communications, literature, civil rights and government. Honorary recipients included Harris; anchorwoman Maureen Bunyan; Howard University graduate professor *emerita* of English Eleanor W. Traylor; and co-founder of the National Organization for Women and the first African-American woman ordained an Episcopal priest Anna Pauline Murray.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERYL KESSIO; KEA TAYLOR; JUSTIN D. KNIGHT



Bison Gallery



On Commencement Day, Howard University awarded more than 2,191 bachelor's degrees, more than 300 master's degrees and more than 105 Ph.D.s. Additionally, more than 375 students earned

professional degrees in law, medicine, pharmacy and dentistry.

Howard University has the only dental and pharmacy colleges in the District of Columbia. ■ HU

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERYL KESSIO; JUSTIN D. KNIGHT; KEA TAYLOR





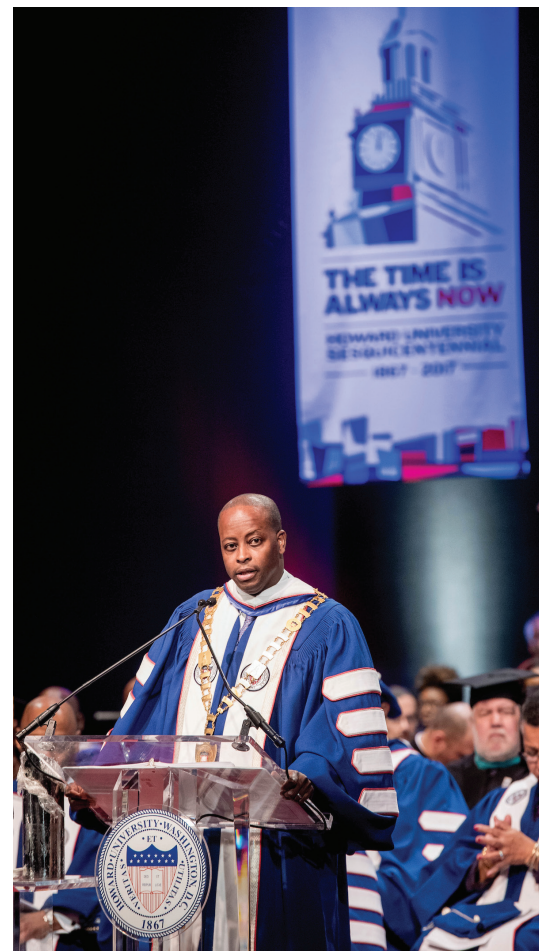


Charter Day 2017

The Howard University community marked the sesquicentennial at the annual Charter Day Convocation on March 2. Convocation speaker Mark A. L. Mason, a Howard alumnus and member of the board of trustees, lauded Howard University as “the incubator that nurses America’s conscience.”

“Today, Howard takes on a new relevance,” he said. “Howard has always meant something different in each generation, while at the same time representing something timeless—the need to advance and the commitment to excellence in truth and service.”

In remarks during the week, Stacey J. Mobley, chairman of the University’s board of trustees, focused on Howard University’s perseverance through the decades. For the past 150 years, Howard persisted through the Reconstruction era, Jim Crow, World War I, World War II, the Great Depression and the Civil Rights Movement.



“Our University has witnessed tough times, and we have always been guided by our core values of truth, excellence and service,” Mobley said. “The time is always now to shape history, tell our story, reach historic heights and break down barriers.”

The Charter Day Convocation is an annual event commemorating the special charter enacted by the U.S. Congress, and subsequently approved by U.S. President Andrew Johnson, that established Howard University on March 2, 1867.

Frederick has said the establishment of Howard University constituted one of the most noteworthy accomplishments in the history of American colleges and universities.

To view more photos of the University’s 2017 Charter Day Convocation, go to <https://goo.gl/ptw8ij>. ■HU



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Sesquicentennial Celebration Events

A jubilant crowd of 1,700 Howardites hailed and toasted Howard University in honor of its 150-year legacy and continuing promise to the future at the Charter Day dinner on March 3.

The University marked its sesquicentennial with several events throughout the week under the theme “The Time Is Always Now.”

The Charter Day dinner featured activist and rapper Common as master of ceremonies and performances by vocal jazz ensemble Afro Blue and R&B singer Tank. Common encouraged the crowd to express their passion and excitement for the University and “the heights to come in the next 150 years.”

Howard University President Dr. Wayne A. I. Frederick encouraged participants to never forget the “strong roots of our enduring past” and introduced a video featuring Howard alumnus Thurgood Marshall, the nation’s first African-American associate justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

“Howard University will continue to be a unique undertaking—a microcosm of our world and the undeniable solution to some of this world’s greatest challenges,” Frederick said.

To view more photos of the University’s Sesquicentennial events, go to <https://goo.gl/KPbbhN>. ■■

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JUSTIN D. KNIGHT AND INSANA COLLINS





School of Social Work Faculty Awarded U.S. Department of Justice Grant

Tricia Bent-Goodley, Ph.D., director of the Ph.D. program at the Howard University School of Social Work, was awarded a grant from the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women. The \$450,000 grant was awarded from September 2016 to August 2018 and spans five communities across the country. The purpose of the grant is to provide training and technical assistance on how to respond to and prevent domestic violence homicide from a culturally specific and sensitive perspective. Another key component focuses on enhancing relations between law enforcement, court systems and social service agencies.

Bent-Goodley has a passion for building solutions to improve the safety and viability of Black families and communities, with a particular focus on the development of culturally competent interventions that build on the strengths of the community. In addition to the grant awarded for research and community engagement geared toward cultural sensitivity with responding to and preventing domestic violence, she was the principal investigator/project director of the Campus Safety First Program, a Howard University domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking prevention initiative funded by the Office on Violence Against Women. She also is director of the Howard University Interpersonal Violence Prevention Program.

School of Social Work Continues Offering Service Learning in South Africa

The Howard University School of Social Work, International Service Learning Program celebrates eight years of offering School of Social Work graduate students opportunities for experiential learning in Cape Town, South Africa. Born out of a student initiative to expand perspectives to gain more understanding of international social work education during spring break and under the leadership of Dean Sandra Edmonds Crewe, the ISL Program continues partnerships with almost 15 community-based and national organizations, including the National Association of Social Workers – South Africa, Western Cape.

The program is comprised of structured course seminars through the spring semester, a 10-day in-country experience including a service day and a closing seminar and community forum for the wider Howard University Community and alumni participants. The ISL Program has reached more than 190 students and an estimated 50 inter-professional

faculty and alumni within and outside of Howard University.

This international service learning experience provides the opportunity for professional development in exposure to international social work practice, research and policy. The experience also includes real-world application in social work fields of practice including: criminal justice, displaced populations, family and child welfare, health, mental health and social gerontology. In addition, the Program's preparation for leadership, supports the University's mission of continuing to produce leaders for America and the Global Community.

School of Communications Professor's Film Nominated

Life on the Ganges, a film from Indira Somani, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Howard University Department of Media, Journalism and Film, premiered April 10 during the Northern Virginia International Film & Music Festival in Fairfax, Virginia. It also was nominated for Best Short Documentary. The awards ceremony was April 22. For more information, go to <https://lifeontheganges.wordpress.com>.

Taraji P. Henson (BFA '95)

A DAY WITHOUT HOWARD is a day without Taraji P. Henson, star of Fox's top series, *Empire*, which raked in 17 million viewers in Season 1. This means a day without your Wednesday night muse, your Thursday morning buzz. It means a day without a BET Award, a Critics Choice Television Award, a Golden Globe and an NAACP Image award for an outstanding actress. To broadcast networks, this means a day without the best results you've seen from a premiere season in a decade.



School of Education Majors Study Abroad in Cuba

As part of the School of Education's goal to increase global citizenship among its students, elementary education majors completed an inaugural study abroad in Cuba through a course titled international internship, where teacher candidates were asked to immerse themselves in a culture other than their own. In addition to the hours spent in a U.S.-based bilingual school, teacher candidates expanded their knowledge of cultural diversity through journal reflections, book discussions, films and travel abroad.

While in Cuba, HU elementary education students demonstrated a commitment to service-learning through the completion of a service project, which included painting an elementary school. Students made many visits to Cuban schools and enjoyed the history of the Museo de la Revolución and the Literacy Museum.

School of Law Moot Court Team Wins Competition

Brittney Martin (3L) and Madison Gibb (2L) of the Charles Hamilton Houston Moot Court Team won the William E. McGee National Civil Rights Moot Court Competition at Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota. Their coach was Douglas Jackson-Quzack, former CHH National Moot Court Team member and associate at Arnold & Porter LLP.

Carter G. Woodson
(L.L.D. '47)

A DAY WITHOUT HOWARD means a day without Carter G. Woodson—"The father of Black history." A day without Howard is a day without the man credited with creating Negro History Week, the precursor of Black History Month.

Howard University Gallery of Art Receives Bequest

Howard University Gallery of Art is proud to receive a donation from the estate of award-winning artist and alumnus Peter L. Robinson. A native of Washington, D.C., Robinson graduated from Howard University in 1949 with a B.S.I.A. degree in art. He worked for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for 14 years. Recognized by President Richard Nixon in 1970 for exceptional service to others in the arts, Robinson also received the NASA Group Achievement Award, the NASA Space Ship Earth Award and the NASA Medal of Excellence. Through his bequest, the Gallery of Art received colorful paintings of abstracts of horizons, landscapes, trees and outer space that span the artist's career, along with a \$30,000 collection maintenance fund. A selection from this gift was part of the gallery's fall 2017 exhibition season.

Graduate School Professor Conducts Research on Gastrointestinal Diseases

Professor Hassan Ashktorab, Ph.D., and an international group of scientists recently conducted research on gastrointestinal polyps and cancer detection. Specific research areas that fall under these umbrellas include genetics, epigenetics, microbiomics and epidemiological outcome research in gastrointestinal diseases. Ashktorab found that low social economic status, such as education, housing, income, access to health care, lack of follow-up and diet in African Americans play an important role in the disparity of colorectal disease. Ashktorab has collaborated in research and publications with universities in the following places: Korea, Italy, India, China, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Singapore, Hong Kong and Iran.

College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences Department Awarded Grant

The Howard University Department of Occupational Therapy was awarded \$1.9 million, and the Division of Nursing was granted \$2.6 million for the Health Resources and Service Administration Disadvantaged Students Grant, 2016–20.

School of Business Students Visit London

In spring 2017, 66 School of Business students visited London for the Honors Spring Retreat. Participants learned about the global aspects of business, the impact of global markets and the diversity of operations within a company. Students visited retreat sponsors with offices in London, including KPMG, Goldman Sachs, Phillips 66, CFI Partners and BP. A panel discussion with Howard alumni at Goldman Sachs, a visit to the trading floor at BP, discussions at Phillips 66 and informal conversation at KPMG were among the highlights. Students were hosted at Bloomberg to provide an opportunity to network with members of the Power List and young adult peers who are among the emerging leaders in the U.K. On the final day of the trip, the group was hosted by Member of Parliament Helen Grant for a tour. The visit also included the House of Lords and afternoon tea with six members of Parliament from the Conservative and Labour parties. Students engaged in conversation about Brexit, international policy and business trends.



School of Social Work Founding Dean Honored

Inabel Burns Lindsay, Ph.D., founding dean of the Howard University School of Social Work and trailblazer in social work education, was honored at the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration during Social Work Month. She was honored as a 1937 MSW alumna of distinction.

Dean Sandra Edmonds Crewe presented Burns Lindsay's legacy with specific focus on her role as a moral conscience for the profession to live up to its social justice values.

College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences Hosts Spring Soiree

The College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences recently celebrated the University's Sesquicentennial with a 150th Anniversary Soiree. The event brought alumni, faculty and friends together to embrace the significance of the College's rich history, celebrate recent achievements and move forward with the goal of educating and preparing future healthcare professionals.

The College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences was founded in 1968. For nearly 50 years, the College has trained therapists, nurses and other healthcare professionals through eight premier programs: clinical laboratory sciences; health management; nursing; nutritional sciences and dietetics; occupational therapy; physical therapy; physician assistant; and radiation therapy. The College's graduates are known internationally for their leadership through healthcare research, professional practice, innovation, job creation, social justice and service to the community. Spring soiree alumni achievement honorees were: Shirley Jackson, Ph.D.; Peggy Valentine, Ed.D.; Senora Simpson, P.T., Dr.PH, M.PH, Kenneth Samuel; Rovenia Brock, Ph.D.; Pauline Green, Ph.D.; Ahmed Moen, Dr.PH, M.PH, M.HA; and Patricia Kornegay.

Enolia McMillan (B.A. '26)

A DAY WITHOUT HOWARD means a day without Enolia McMillan and her extensive contributions to Black education and the NAACP. This means going without the former president of the Maryland State Colored Teachers Association, regional vice president of the National Association of Colored Teachers and one of the first Black teachers at a White school following Brown v. Board of Education. It also means a day without the first female president of the NAACP.

School of Communications Professor Lands Fellowship

Professor Sonja Williams was selected for a Mellon Foundation-sponsored Short-term Summer Fellowship. She will spend the summer doing research at the Black Metropolis Research Consortium in Chicago, Illinois, for her project “Affirmative Lives.”

Chadwick Boseman to Star in *His Name Means Justice: Marshall*

Howard University Department of Theatre Arts alumnus Chadwick Boseman ('00), has made a name for himself in the Hollywood film industry. A new inductee into the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Boseman's filmography includes commanding reviews in his portrayal as Jackie Robinson in *42* and James Brown in *Get on Up*. Recently, Boseman broke ground again by taking on the role of Black Panther in *Captain American: Civil War*. Boseman has taken Hollywood by storm as a businessman and an artist. His next project? Another biopic based on the life of another Howard man, Thurgood Marshall. Look out for the new film by Reginald Hudson with Boseman in the title role: *His Name Means Justice: Marshall*.



College of Engineering and Architecture Undergoes New Era of Transformation

The College of Engineering and Architecture ushered in a new era of transformation and strategic thinking with the appointment of Achille Messac, Ph.D., as its new dean in January 2016. Messac earned his bachelor's, master's and doctorate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Department of Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering. Prior to his appointment at Howard University, he served as dean of engineering and professor of aerospace engineering at Mississippi State University. He is a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, where he currently serves on its board of trustees.

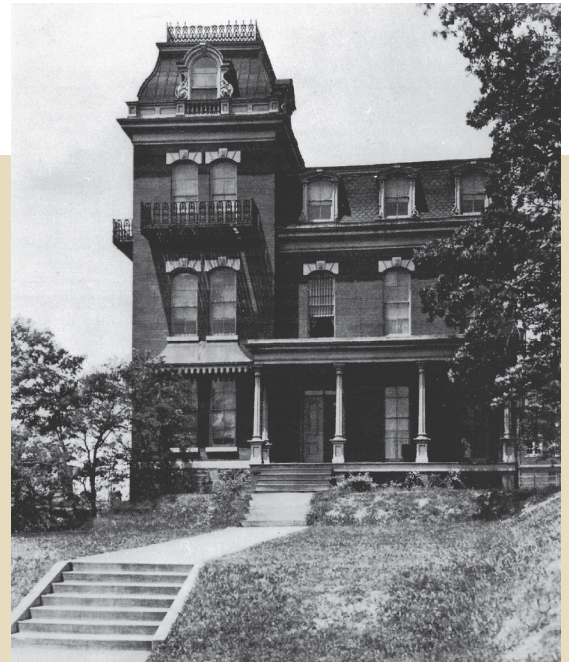
The transformation of the former College of Engineering, Architecture, and Computer Sciences to the College of Engineering and Architecture was a momentous event. The 2016–17 academic year witnessed dramatic philosophical, staffing and infrastructure changes that were designed to improve the lives of our students and their learning experiences. More than 12 new faculty have been hired or are in the process of being hired to facilitate the advancement of the College; these include the largest class of female faculty ever hired at the College. With significant infrastructure improvements, our students are currently enjoying the newly renovated Reading Rooms in the L. K. Downing and the Mackey Buildings that affords a more modern collaborative learning space. Additionally, a newly completed Maker Space in the Mackey Building is finished and ready to be used as a think tank and innovation arena for years to come.

Legacy

Then

Howard Hall is a 16-room Victorian mansion that was completed in 1869. It was originally the residence of Gen. Oliver Otis Howard, who was instrumental in the founding of the University that bears his name. Gen. Howard served as the third president of the University, from 1869 to 1874.

This residence was one of four original campus buildings, and is the only one that has survived. It has been used for various University functions, including a dormitory, School of Music facility and office space, since it was added to the University's building inventory. The University purchased the house in 1909 after the General's death. In 1974, the building was designated as a national historic landmark after having been found to possess national significance in commemorating the history of the United States. This designation automatically placed the property on the National Register of Historic Places.



COURTESY OF MOORLAND-SPINGARN RESEARCH CENTER,
HOWARD UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Now



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Howard Hall has been vacant since it was closed in 1988, due to severe deterioration. Complete historic restoration of the building began in 1996. The building was returned to its 19th century condition in 1998. At that time, the restored building was slated to become the National Alumni Center and a major venue for small social activities.



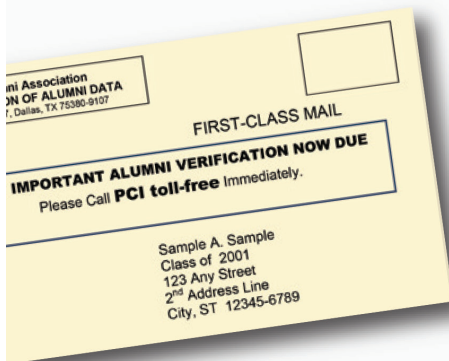
HOWARD UNIVERSITY
SESQUICENTENNIAL
1867 - 2017

150 | THE TIME IS ALWAYS NOW

Publishing Concepts (PCI) is joining Howard alumni in commemorating the 150th Anniversary of Howard University with the publishing of the official Alumni Directory. Starting soon, PCI will

be contacting you via mail, phone, and email asking you to participate by updating your contact information.

Let's make the 150th Anniversary memorable for all Bison alumni!



2018 Howard University Alumni Directory



Alumni Profiles

Jennifer L. Ross

Founder and Executive Director, National Collegiate Preparatory Public Charter High School

By Erin Perry

Jennifer L. Ross (BSc. Psych '96) credits her brother's frankness with oiling the wheels of her life.

"My big brother, who attended Morehouse College, said, 'You need to get out of California. You're way too valley. You need another experience,'" the Sacramento, California, native recalled.

So, she enrolled at Howard in 1985.

Even after money troubles during her sophomore year turned into an eight-year hiatus from the University, "I was determined to have a degree from Howard," she said. In 1996, she earned it and added a master's degree in social work from the University of Maryland in 2000.

Ross, who now lives in Bowie, Maryland, is the founder and executive director of National Collegiate Preparatory Public Charter High School—also known as National Prep. It's the first D.C. public charter high school east of the Potomac River to offer the prestigious International Baccalaureate Diploma. Operating under a \$10-million budget, nearly 300 students are enrolled at the school for 2016–17. The school, which opened in 2009, graduated its fifth senior class at the end of the school year.

With federal start-up funds—and no corporate backing or foundation

"You have this dream for the kids, but they don't believe in the dream for themselves all the time."

grants—Ross leads an organically grown school that prides itself on academic excellence in a safe environment, and where service-learning and study-abroad opportunities are available.

"You have this dream for the kids, but they don't believe in the dream for themselves all the time," she said. "Survival gets in the way of the dream."

Ross' mission is to help them realize the benefits of continued education.

Each year, the junior class travels to National Prep's sister school in Panama, where they complete a service-learning opportunity at a retirement home.

RHEA WHITNEY PHOTOGRAPHY, LLC



“Our language of choice is Spanish,” Ross said, noting that students get to experience the language’s connection to the African Diaspora when they see and hear black people speaking the language.

“The school has an international studies focus for that reason,” she said.

Ross called the whole curriculum “high-functioning” but admits raw data shows that students—many of whom read at a fifth-grade level—don’t perform well. So, she prefers to look at the growth data, which she said shows the school is consistent with increasing reading and math scores.

Ross envisions National Prep being around well beyond her years with a plethora of endowment funds. She wants to open four more campuses, in cities like Detroit; Chicago; West Palm Beach, Florida; and a part of North Carolina. She wants beautiful buildings, like the ones at Georgetown Day School and Sidwell Friends School, with swimming pools and tennis courts, too.

“They shouldn’t have to cross the [Potomac] River to have that opportunity,” she said. ■IU

Erin Perry is a metro Detroit-based writer and editor.

Kevin Judd

D.C. Bankruptcy Attorney and 2016 President of the National Bar Association

By Nkechi Nnorom

Being a stockbroker on Wall Street just wasn't satisfying enough for Kevin Judd (J.D. '92). Judd wanted to embark on a new journey that would allow him to impact the community and be an effective leader.

"I felt like something was missing from my life," he said. "I did not feel like I was contributing to society in a significant or meaningful way, and intuitively felt I needed to make a major change in my life."

In conjunction with his undergraduate business degree and the stellar education that he had received from Howard, Judd built a strong foundation for his legal career.

With the help of his mentor, Alvin Pittman (J.D. '78), Judd was able to open his own legal practice, Law Firm of Kevin D. Judd P.L.L.C., in 1994 in Washington, D.C. His firm, whose motto is "Your Gateway to Financial Freedom," specializes in bankruptcy, a mechanism that Judd felt could alleviate economic pressures and provide people with ways to establish a good financial footing.

"I get a great sense of satisfaction when I am able to help individuals secure their home from foreclosure and lift the heavy weight of debt that keeps people in financial bondage," Judd said. "In fact sometimes, I equate undue debt burdens as modern-day slavery, because these folks

are unable to contribute in the world's greatest economic system and cannot live their lives in a fruitful and fulfilling manner."

Judd's ability to guide members in the D.C. community opened more doors for "rewarding" leadership roles. In late July, Judd was elected the 74th President of the National Bar Association, the oldest and largest national voluntary legal association with a network of more than 66,000 predominantly Black lawyers, judges, educators and law students.

The theme of his presidency is securing "Justice through Unity Collaboration." With the support of motivated board members, Judd plans to tackle police misconduct and criminal justice reform, economic justice and empowerment, human trafficking and to protect voting rights, judicial diversity and preservation of HBCUs.

He currently serves on the Local Rules Advisory Committee for the United States Bankruptcy Court for D.C. Judd also has served as president for the Washington Bar Association and national president of Howard University Law Alumni Association. ■IU

"I get a great sense of satisfaction when I am able to help individuals secure their home from foreclosure and lift the heavy weight of debt that keeps people in financial bondage."



'80s



Dr. Margaret McKenzie, M.S. 1984, has been named president of Cleveland Clinic South Pointe Hospital.

Dr. McKenzie joined Cleveland Clinic as a staff member in the OB-GYN and Women's Health Institute in 1995. In her most recent role, she served as section head of general obstetrics and gynecology. She has practiced at Euclid and Hillcrest hospitals and the Beachwood and Willoughby Hills family health centers. She helped orchestrate the development of the Physician Diversity Scholars Program for Ohio University's Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine at South Pointe Hospital. She is the former president and a current member of the Cleveland Clinic Women's Professional Staff Association. She also is a member of the Cleveland Clinic Board of Governors, the Operations Advisory Team and co-chair of the Association of Professors in Gynecology and Obstetrics Annual Faculty Development Seminar.

'90s

Faizah "Nicole" Toler, B.S.E.E. 1997, was honored as a Modern Day Technology Leader at the 2017 Black Engineer of the Year Awards in Washington, D.C. She was celebrated by her husband, David Toler, B.S.E.E. 1996, her company Northrop Grumman Corp. and other family and friends.

'00s



Brandi James, B.A. 2004, in November 2016 received the joint U.S. Department of State and U.S. Department of Labor annual award for Excellence in Labor Diplomacy. The monetary award recognizes excellence in promoting U.S. foreign policy interests in the labor field James was recognized for her outstanding accomplishments in designing and implementing programs and building partnerships which strengthen the institutional capacity of labor organizations across southern Africa. She will complete her current diplomatic assignment in Johannesburg, South Africa, in October 2017.

Edward Daniel, B.S. 2005, was named CEO of Metropolitan Healthcare Services Inc. and has earned board certification in healthcare management as a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Matthew Manning, B.A. 2008, recently was appointed and began serving as First Assistant District Attorney – Court Affairs in Nueces County, Texas.

Patricia Bath (M.D. '68)

A DAY WITHOUT HOWARD means a day without Dr. Patricia Bath, a groundbreaking African-American woman. This means going without the first Black person to serve as a resident in ophthalmology at New York University and the first Black woman to serve as a surgeon at the University of California Los Angeles Medical Center. It means doing without the first woman serving on the Jules Stein Eye Institute's staff and without the first woman heading a post-graduate training program in ophthalmology. A day without Howard means a day without the first African-American woman doctor to receive a patent for a medical purpose. It means a day without a holder of four patents and without the founder of the American Institute for Prevention of Blindness in Washington, D.C.

**Stokely Carmichael
Kwame Ture**
(B.A. '64)

A DAY WITHOUT HOWARD is a day without Kwame Ture, a prominent civil rights figure. More famously known as "Stokely Carmichael," it means a day without a leader of the All-African People's Revolutionary Party and without the first leader of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. This means a day without the Honorary Prime Minister of the Black Panther Party.

Brittany Gail Thomas, B.A. 2008, and Garreth Fearon met through a mutual friend on Howard University's campus in 2007 while Brittany was a student and have been together ever since. After nine years of dating, Thomas and Fearon were married on July 16, 2016, in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico. Their wedding ceremony was held at the Centro de Estudios Avanzados de Puerto Rico y el Caribe, and their reception was held in the Salon Campeche at Hotel El Convento.

'IOs

Erin Winters, B.A. 2016, has made her mark as the first National Geographic digital correspondent. She was selected from a national pool of 600 applicants.

Love Story: Ali and Miracle Roberts



Ali Roberts (B.A. '98)

Special Agent, Department of Justice

Miracle Roberts (B.B.A. '02)

Chief Financial Officer, Arlington Community Schools

Location: Memphis, Tennessee

The Meeting: September 2013 at Cummings Street Missionary Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. We were both leaving church when Miracle noticed Ali's Howard alumni tag on his vehicle and struck up a conversation.

The First Date: Brooklyn Bridge in Memphis, Tennessee

The Why: We are best friends who challenged each other to be better versions of ourselves. We knew we were meant to spend our lives together when we realized both our heads and hearts were in agreement with each other.

Other Info: Ali is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., initiated at Beta Chapter. Miracle is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., initiated at Central Arkansas Alumnae Chapter and currently a member of Shelby County (Tennessee) Alumnae Chapter. ■HU

R HAMETH PHOTOGRAPHY

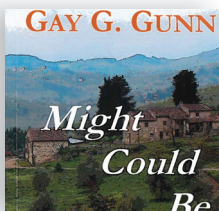
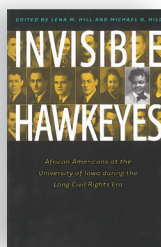
Bison Bookshelf



Faithful to the Task at Hand (SUNY Press), by **Carroll L.L. Miller** (B.A. '29, M.A. '30) and **Anne S. Pruitt-Logan** (B.S. '49), tells the remarkable story of Lucy Diggs Slowe, the first African-American woman to win a major sports title, a founder of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the first dean of women at Howard University. With her

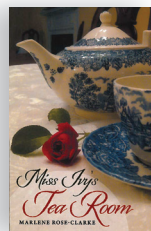
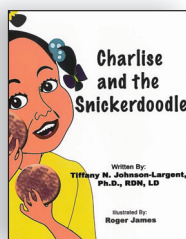
steadfast determination, Slowe works her way through college, earns respect as a teacher and dean and stands up to Howard's president and board of trustees in insisting on equal treatment of women.

Invisible Hawkeyes, by **Lena M. Hill** (B.A. '97) and **Michael D. Hill** (B.A. '93), takes a collection of individual stories at the University of Iowa and its college town of Iowa City from the 1930s to the 1960s and reveals how fraught moments of interracial collaboration, meritocratic advancement and institutional insensitivity deepen our understanding of America's painful conversion into a diverse republic committed to racial equality.



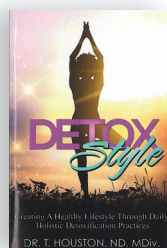
Might Could Be (Different Drummer, LLC), by **Gay G. Gunn** (B.A. '69; M.S.W. '71), is the sequel to *Keely and Colt* that follows siblings Selena Culhane Colson and Hepburn Culhane on their journeys to define their lives and face the tragedies and triumphs during World War II and in post-war and pre-civil rights era America.

Charlise and the Snickerdoodle (Rosedog Books), by **Tiffany N. Johnson-Largent** (M.S. '05; Ph.D. '11), is a children's novel about a young girl named Charlise who is given a new sweet treat but has difficulty pronouncing "Snickerdoodle." With the help of her big sister, Kimberly, Charlise learns how to pronounce Snickerdoodle in a fun and exciting way that exercises her brain and body.



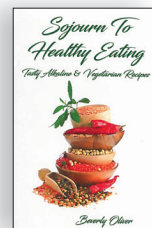
Miss Ivy's Tea Room (LifeRich Publishing), by **Marlene Rose-Clarke** (B.B.A. '82), is a novel that follows a quilt of characters, each with a story of adversity, as they find solace in a hot cup of tea within the warm atmosphere of a team room operated by the proprietor, Julia Horne.

In Full Color: Finding My Place in a Black and White World (BenBella Books, Inc.), by **Rachel Doležal** (M.F.A. '02), describes the path that led Doležal from being a child of white evangelical parents to an NAACP chapter president and respected educator and activist who identified as Black. Along the way, she recounts the deep emotional bond she formed with her four adopted Black siblings, the sense of belonging she felt while living in Black communities in Jackson, Mississippi, and Washington, D.C., and the experiences she's had along the way.



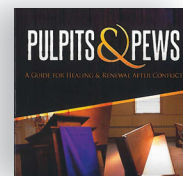
Detox Style: Creating A Healthy Lifestyle Through Daily Holistic Detoxification Practices (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform), by **Tawainna Houston, ND, M.Div.** (B.A. '95), explains how the body tries to eliminate toxins and offers advice about how to keep the body free of environmental toxins.

Sojourn to Healthy Eating: Tasty Alkaline & Vegetarian Recipes (Morris Press Cookbooks), by **Beverly Oliver** (B.A. '79), is a cookbook with more than 170 alkaline, vegetarian and vegan recipes for those seeking new ways to eat more non-meat and gluten-free meals.



Grow Your Mind to Go Global (Lessons From Abroad), by **Deborah Fulcher Crimes** (M.B.A. '88), is a book that encourages young people, ages 16–25, to think and go global with their careers in order to capitalize on their language ability and/or cultural competency.

Pulpits & Pews: A Guide for Healing & Renewal After Conflict, by **Michael W. Hopkins** (B.Th. '95), is a "how-to" manual that provides a mechanism to address the disease of unresolved conflict. This book demonstrates how to reclaim the genuine love that is required for ministry and will lead the pastor and the entire congregation on the journey to health and spiritual renewal.



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



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SHIFTING THE SEAT

HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL
OF LAW HAS LONG BROKEN
BARRIERS BY USHERING BLACK
ALUMNI INTO THE JUDICIARY.

BY BRIAHNNA BROWN (B.A. '16)

COURTESY OF D.C. COURTS



At a time when the focus on the need to repair the criminal justice system is stronger than ever before, the conversation has shifted to encouraging young minorities protesting in the streets to “become the system” and be the change they wish to see.

The Howard University School of Law has a longstanding legacy of producing minority lawyers who have left their mark on the world and opened the door for future Black lawyers to join the judiciary and continue breaking down barriers.

Judge William Henry Hastie, former dean of the School of Law, was a vocal civil rights advocate and became the first African-American federal judge for the Virgin Islands in 1937, and later, the first Black governor of the U.S. Territory. Judge Spottswood W. Robinson III (J.D. '39) was one of the lawyers who argued in one of the cases under *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954, and was the first African American appointed to D.C. Court of Appeals.

And, of course, the first African-American Supreme Court justice, Thurgood Marshall (LL.B. '33), who was instrumental in winning the *Brown v. Board of Education* case as legal counsel for the NAACP, and worked to uphold equality in every case that came before the Supreme Court, often being a dissenter.

Judge Loretta Copeland Biggs (J.D. '79), knows the importance of recognizing those who made the way for her to be where she is today. She was the first Black woman hired as a staff attorney for The Coca-Cola Co. in 1979, the first Black woman state district court judge in Forsyth County, North Carolina, in 1987, and, since her appointment by former President Barack Obama in 2014, currently serves as the first Black woman appointed as a federal district court judge

in North Carolina. She said that attending Howard's School of Law was one of the most critical building blocks in her career of firsts.

“It builds your confidence when you know you stand on the shoulders of so many strong, active folks who fought hard for you to take advantage of these opportunities,” Biggs said. “I feel very blessed to have been within the halls of Howard's law school and believe that it has absolutely shaped my thinking about my career.”

Her 2014 appointment as a federal district court judge meant she was sitting in the seat created for fellow Howard grad Judge Richard Erwin (LL.B. '51), who Biggs said blazed trails for her. The Howard legacy and her legal education prepared her for a career she describes as having a lot of blessings and opportunities.

“In addition to teaching me the law, [Howard] really helped develop my consciousness for social justice,” Biggs said. “It instilled in me this belief that our responsibility is far greater than our own

personal professional advancement, but that we had a greater responsibility on the social level.”

Judge Calvin Hawkins (J.D. '70), a superior court judge of Lake County, Indiana, has taken on that social responsibility from the beginning. He went to Howard during the Black Power movement and has advocated for many causes throughout his life. He participated in the March on Washington; he protested former President Richard Nixon's positions on civil rights while he was working as an attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice's civil rights division, before Nixon's resignation; he's campaigned to fight the high school dropout rates in Indiana; and, before he became a judge, he

advocated for more diversity in the judiciary.

“You really can't have justice unless there is representation of all the people,” Hawkins said. “If it's all White, all male, that's not a representation of your citizenry.”

He was even arrested while protesting with Father Michael Pfleger against drug paraphernalia

Enolia McMillan (B.A. '26)

A DAY WITHOUT HOWARD means a day without Enolia McMillan and her extensive contributions to Black education and the NAACP. This means going without the former president of the Maryland State Colored Teachers Association, regional vice president of the National Association of Colored Teachers and one of the first Black teachers at a White school following *Brown v. Board of Education*. It also means a day without the first female president of the NAACP.

in Chicago, which is one of the reasons why he often says that there's no reason he should have been appointed in 2007 and that it must have been God's will.

"Being a judge was really not on my radar, other than ego; there were no Black federal judges in the state," Hawkins said.

Judge Tanya Walton Pratt (J.D. '84), also in Indiana, earned the appointment as the first African-American federal judge in the state. Like Biggs, she was appointed by Obama to the judiciary in 2010. She said she faced more barriers being an African American than being a woman, but it never stopped her from overcoming those hurdles and becoming another first in American history.

"I do believe, with respect to the bench, that it matters very much that each branch of the judiciary is diverse, especially in the federal court systems where I am now," Pratt said. "A diverse judiciary does enhance the quality of justice, and it makes it deeper and broader and more credible and really aids the legitimacy of the court system."

Pratt is a firm believer in the power of HBCUs, having attended Spelman for undergrad. She said she thrived at and was empowered by Howard University, without which she would not have had the courage to go through the process of becoming a federal judge. Having role models who look like her and professors who have had similar experiences as her helped prepare her for what she does every day, she said.

"Being a federal judge, one of my goals is the advancement of jurisprudence, and I'm really grateful for the opportunity to help make this nation a more just society through the legal system," Pratt said.

Judge Ann Elise Thompson (B.A. '55, LL.B. '64) loved being a lawyer, and she rose through the ranks to become a senior U.S. federal judge for New Jersey. She's always had a love for theater, and she was one of the Howard Players



You really can't have justice unless there is representation of all the people. If it's all White, all male, that's not a representation of your citizenry."

Judge Calvin Hawkins
(J.D. '70)

in undergrad. For Thompson, all the world's a stage, and she appreciates how everyday drama comes into play at her job as a judge, where she likes to explore "the human condition."

"The vast varieties of how people think, all the various conditions into which people are born, the struggles that they have in order to live their lives, how they contribute, how they interact, how they help each other, how they destroy each other—all of it is kind of dramatic," Thompson said. "I enjoy a career that focuses on all the variety of human existence."

For Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby (J.D. '87), a love of the law runs in the family. Her mother, Laura D. Blackburne, was a New York Supreme Court justice, and her husband, Judge Robert Rigsby, is currently the associate judge of the D.C. Superior Court. Blackburne-Rigsby was first nominated to the D.C. Court of Appeals by former President George W. Bush in 2006, and in March 2017, she was sworn in as chief of the court of appeals.

"I was very honored and proud to become the chief judge," Blackburne-Rigsby said. "It's a big responsibility, but it's one I'm honored to take on."

She said that her Howard education prepared her for her role in public service. Her father, Elmer Blackburne also had a career in public service. Blackburne-Rigsby spoke on the legacy that the Howard School of Law has had and said it will be carried on, will improve the justice system and will empower it through diversity.

"Howard law school was very special to me because some of the key legal minds in the Civil Rights movement came from Howard law school," Blackburne-Rigsby said. "I feel like the law school still has a strong tradition of training lawyers to use the law to serve people, especially to promote fairness and access to the law for everybody." ■HU

A^{the}rti

When it comes to training and preparing greats in the arts, Howard is no stranger.

BY KATTI GRAY

From her spot at the head of a cavernous classroom, hit a button to make the music play. Then, she pivoted. Her eyes surveyed a racial rainbow of men and women, young and old, who'd shown up to watch Roberts' moves, to test their own skill at miming her movements, to learn from her.

"Raise your hand if you've ever been to an Evidence performance," beckoned Roberts (B.F.A. '04), a premier artist with that trailblazing, globetrotting troupe.

"We blend West African, Afro-Cuban and modern dance together," she said. "... to tell stories about the human condition, to tell universal stories."

Roberts beamed a smile toward the students in that free, 90-minute class for whomever managed to snag one of the limited number of slots.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JUSTIN D. KNIGHT



Annique Roberts



st i c i n f l u e n c e

Roberts assumed a dancer's stance: Head up. Shoulders back and eased down. Feet, astride just so and firm on the wooden floor of that expansive studio in one of the Big Apple's most vibrant arts and entertainment districts.

Put your feet together as best you can.

She was steering those rapt, ready students through a warm-up.

Look up ... Open your arms and just bend the legs ... Again ... Bend the legs ... Feet together ... Look up

From the sidelines, a baby boy in a stroller—his mom, a Roberts devotee, was on the dance floor—started cooing.

"Come on. Sing," Roberts urged that babbling baby, chuckling, as a Nina Simone song on her instructor's playlist gave way to one by Anthony Hamilton.

That Roberts gets asked to teach a community class at such a vaunted place

as BRIC Arts in downtown Brooklyn—let alone, to dance on world stages—says something about her particular stardom in an arts capitol where hordes of artistic hopefuls never see their names in a Playbill. What also speaks volumes, for her and other Howard alumni succeeding in the arts, is the role their alma mater has played in honing their craft but also stoking their resolve. It takes some savvy to avoid getting stuck in a proverbial day job wholly unrelated to performing.

"Howard—and this is something I carry with me consciously and constantly—taught us to survive and to remember what is our purpose," said Broadway/Off Broadway actress Amber Iman (B.F.A., '08). She was speaking from her rental apartment in San Francisco, one of the cities on national tour of the blockbuster musical *Hamilton*, which

won 11 Tony Awards and put Iman in its national cast.

Playing George Washington on that national tour is fellow Bison Isaiah Johnson (B.F.A. TK), who also starred as Mister in *The Color Purple* and worked on Broadway stages with, among others, mega-star Al Pacino.

In *Hamilton*, Johnson shines pure and clear, said an adoring Iman, who acted in, among other productions, *Soul Doctor* and *Kiss Me, Kate*, and alongside six-time Tony winner Audra McDonald in *Shuffle Along*.

At one point in *Hamilton*, Iman explained, Johnson is one of “three chocolate, strong Black men ... singing to their children. This is not something you see on Broadway or Off-Broadway. It’s mind-blowing. I can’t tell you the number of people who come up crying after the show, not because of [the play’s depiction of President] Hamilton, but because these men of color are shown to be heroes, loving their children—not the villain.”

Indeed, Howard alumni do thrive as arts professionals. Indeed, some of them have upending certain notions about artists of color and the roles and spaces they can ably occupy. That list includes such marquee names as sisters Debbie Allen (B.F.A. ’71) and Phylicia Rashad (B.F.A. ’70) of Broadway, Tinseltown and prime-time TV fame; Harriet Foy (B.F.A. ’84), who was starring in Broadway’s *Amelie* in 2017 and has had a steady stream of acting gigs on and Off Broadway; actress Ashley Blaine Featherson (B.F.A. ’09) of the original Netflix series, *Dear White People*; Susan Kelechi Watson, co-star of *This Is Us*, the breakout NBC series; actress/writer Marinda Anderson (B.F.A. ’05), who has appeared in the comedic *Homegirls* and the futuristic *Gotham* series; and Obie Award-winning playwright/actress Nikkole Salter (B.F.A. ’01) who was starring in *Lady M* at Washington, D.C.’s Shakespeare Theatre.

In critical behind-the-scenes gigs are the likes of University of Illinois professor Derrick Saunders, founder of Congo Square Theatre in Chicago and

highly regarded director of key plays, including several by August Wilson.

In the pipeline of performance hopefuls are recent graduates Nedra Snipes (B.F.A. ’14), who lands at the lauded Juilliard School’s as an M.F.A. candidate on fall 2017 and Lauren Banks (B.F.A. ’13) was slated to walk off with an M.F.A. from Yale School of Drama in May 2017.

And that’s just a sample of Howard’s Who’s Who in the arts.

Also in that rarefied universe is Clayton Craddock (B.S. ’91). He earned a marketing degree from Howard—his father insisted he have a fallback if music didn’t pan out—but has worked full-time as a drummer on Broadway and Off-Broadway for more than 17 years.

“I realized early on that the music business is, first and foremost, a



Amber Iman



Clayton Craddock

business,” said Craddock, who led the Thunder Machine drum section of Howard’s marching band during his first year on a campus. For a Black boy from a mostly White Connecticut high school, being at Howard was transformative in several ways, he said.

“I was this shy, chunky kid,” said Craddock, who was voted Outstanding Bandsman back then and, as a grown-up drummer, has been on the payroll for such Broadway hits as *Rent*, *The Color Purple*, *Avenue Q*, Tony-winning *Memphis*, *The Musical* and *Lady Day* at Emerson’s Bar and Grill, featuring famed Audra McDonald, and for Radio City’s Rockettes.

He’s contracted to drum for *Ain’t Too Proud*, a musical about The Temptations debuting in spring 2018.

“I was confident in my ability to keep up,” added Craddock, reflecting on his college years. “But Howard brought me to a whole other level of confidence. In the Thunder Machine, you’re playing and dancing around and moving your body around and going crazy and trying to be in sync. They showed me things I never thought I could do.”

Instead of gaining the fabled “freshman 15,” he lost 20 pounds that first year, said Craddock, sitting that day in a Harlem coffee shop. Between the marching band and his business classes, he gained skills leading to his steady employment doing what he loves.

“I’ve made a little money and good money, and I am strictly a drummer these days,” he said. “It takes

a long time to get to where I am. And I don’t ever plan to retire.”

For her part, Iman strives for that sense of security. She may look real good, if you will, on paper and in the press. But two of her Broadway shows closed, by theater measures, shortly after opening. She’s fortunate to have parents who back her up financially and smart enough to claim her unemployment benefits when she’s between gigs.

“I’ve gotten this far because of my courage and faith, and because I’ve a great support system. It’s hard for artists. You need to pay your bills. But you don’t want to put your energy where it doesn’t belong,” Iman said. “An HBCU teaches you how to make lemonade out of limes. Howard taught us to take advantage of our resources.”

It also stoked her desire to be a resource for others. Her nonprofit, the Broadway Advocacy Coalition, launched in July 2016 to support the Black Lives Matter movement. It assembles teams of artists, activists, lawyers and law students to do performance art that informs average citizens on such essential concerns as what to do when stopped by a police officer or how to combat hate.

Likewise, Annique Roberts’ annual Atlanta Spring Dance Series connects that city’s up-and-coming dancers with regional and national players in dance and provides scholarships.

That endeavor builds upon hers and upon Howard’s artistic legacy. She does not forget how Howard put her dancing self in front of Garth Fagan when she was a senior on campus; he tapped her for Garth Fagan Dance, a New York-based company. Dr. Sherrill Berryman Johnson, founder of Howard’s dance program, generously created a long-distance learning plan so Roberts could graduate on time.

“I find Howard showing up in a lot of the things I do as an artist,” said Roberts, a candidate for a master’s in arts management and founding member of Friends of Theatre and Dance at Howard University. “I want to stay true to Howard’s mission. It is such a guiding light.” ■HU



Enolia McMillan (B.A. '26)

A DAY WITHOUT HOWARD means a day without Enolia McMillan and her extensive contributions to Black education and the NAACP. This means going without the former president of the Maryland State Colored Teachers Association, regional vice president of the National Association of Colored Teachers and one of the first Black teachers at a White school following *Brown v. Board of Education*. It also means a day without the first female president of the NAACP.



*When the
HBCU Student*

PROT

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JUSTIN D. KNIGHT



TESTS

With HBCUs and social justice having always marched to the same tune, students sound off from their perspective.

BY NKECHI NNOROM

FIFTY-SEVEN YEARS AGO, THE A&T FOUR WERE DENIED COFFEE.

Five months later, the same four North Carolina A&T State University freshmen were served long-awaited justice, after conducting what would become the most notable nonviolent sit-in of the Civil Rights Movement.

On Feb. 1, 1960, Joseph McNeil, Franklin McCain, Ezeli Blair Jr. and David Richmond sat down at a Whites-only F.W. Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina. They asked for coffee, but were denied service, a typical encounter at a racially segregated establishment in the South. The A&T Four did not leave the counter until the store closed.

The goal of the A&T Four's nonviolent sit-in was simply to bring media attention to the continued segregation occurring at Woolworth's. However, the outcome was probably more than they could have imagined. The A&T Four were not the first to engage in a sit-in protest, but they did inspire a new wave of student activists on their campus, as well as on campuses in more than 250 cities and towns across the nation.

The protests led by the A&T Four casts a light on the impact of student activism on the campuses of historically Black colleges and universities. Many trailblazers, such as Thurgood Marshall, Martin Luther King Jr., Alice Walker and the Tougaloo Nine were bred from HBCUs. Still, the efforts of those who died and those living continue to galvanize young intellectual minds to protest against unjust political and social systems. Here are the stories of these fostering, brilliant individuals.

Howard University

Senior Ngozi Burrell is the daughter of a former Black Panther. To no surprise, Burrell has acquired the same passion and dedication to fighting for education elevation, just like her father. After the fatal shooting of Michael Brown by a Ferguson, Missouri, police officer, she organized a town hall discussion with D.C.'s local police department on how to increase civilian and officer safety and trust.

Furthermore, Burrell studied in the Middle East in the summer of 2016. Her growing frustration with the lack of media attention given to the international community inspired her to create the International Affairs Society in August 2016. The Howard University organization, now 60 members strong, promotes opportunities for those who seek to contribute to the world with various gifts and strengths. Thus far, members have fundraised and traveled to conferences, such as the Model NATO, African Union conferences as well as the Geneva Summit for Human Rights and Democracy.

"Being the Mecca and leader of the HBCUs, we pride ourselves on speaking out against injustice and for what we believe is right," Burrell said. "Activism has shown me a new way of achieving results in a mature and effective way. Instead of complaining about lack of opportunities, I learned to knock on doors and present my ideas. I come up with solutions and seek support in a constructive way."

In the same accord with Burrell, other students understand that activism goes beyond the United States' borders. Some students take the opportunity to study abroad and immerse themselves in their respective countries' cultures. Amma

Boateng is a junior, majoring in biology with a minor in political science.

In Spring 2016, she studied abroad in Turkey. Boateng recalled the International Women's Day Rally in Istanbul, citing the demonstration as one of her most notable protesting experiences.

"The Women's March in Istanbul stands out as one of the most memorable and empowering moments that I can recall in my time spent protesting," Boateng said. "Seeing those fearless women—many of whom are raised in oppressive social structures—stand up against the Turkish police force in an effort to combat a destructive patriarchal system was an incredibly uplifting moment for me."





“Being the Mecca and leader of the HBCUs, we pride ourselves on speaking out against injustice and for what we believe is right.”



“We stood for all the victims who can no longer stand because they have been unlawfully murdered due to police brutality.”

Morgan State University

On the other hand, there are those who believe that people lose sight of what activism really means. Senior Jeremy Collins has witnessed students using their activism to objectify and further marginalize others. He has even cited issue with the word “activism,” as a result. Still, he encourages student “activists” to be aware of their intentions for seeking out change.

“When it comes to being a student ‘activist,’ one must consider, again, the relationship between the ‘activist’ and the people they’re supposed to be account-

able to,” Collins said. “The accountability piece is often forgotten, as well as the intention of the work they do.”

Collins continued his stance on how activism is not an individualistic measure. “It’s so easy to center oneself in the work they do, but it’s not about you. At the end of the day, your activist work, if the intentions are right, should eventually lead to its being obsolete.”

Tennessee State University

The students on the campus of Tennessee State University used protesting to stir up student involvement in advocating against gun violence and for an increase in campus security in the fall of 2015.

Biology student Jordan Spencer was a sophomore at the time and also involved in student government. Through the



ensuring that my neuroscience research aids humanity on numerous fronts.”

North Carolina A&T State University

Protest can be a unifying measure, bringing a campus community and the surrounding community together. It also can be a coping mechanism during times of solace and heartache.

In November 2016, millions watched the video recording of Keith Lamont Scott, a 43-year-old African-American man, be fatally shot by a Charlotte, North Carolina, police officer.

The shooting caused a divide within the Charlotte community. Nearly 100 miles away, students at North Carolina A&T State University gathered to remember the father of an Aggie alum.

Freshman Lydeah Kears described the defying moment that included 500 students.

“When finding out there was an Aggie on the other end of police brutality, it was only right for us to march as one school and one nation in this protest, in efforts to improve the lives of all Blacks,” Kears said.

Kears notes that activism is common on North Carolina A&T’s campus. Students are vocal about the changes they hope to see.

“We stood for all the victims who can no longer stand because they have been unlawfully murdered due to police brutality. We stood for the family members who feel weakened because of unexpected and unexplained losses.” ■HU

app GroupMe, students mobilized and marched for their demands toward the University’s administration.

The outcome was increased spending on security as well as an increased sense of safety on campus. However, she believes that activism is not popular on campus like it was in the past.

But, Spencer indicated, activism isn’t always a protest.

“Activism can be through your work and passion for the things you love,” she said.

“For example, my activism has shifted from political action to policy and







HBCU EXCELLENCE

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

There is no doubt historically Black colleges and universities play a major role in American history. Founded to provide postsecondary education to African Americans at a time when they were denied entry to the nation's predominantly White institutions, HBCUs were once the only option for Blacks who wanted a college education.

Fast-forward to today. Times are undoubtedly different from those that led to Cheyney University becoming the first HBCU in 1837. After all, today, Black students can attend any college or university, so some argue that the need for HBCUs is not so great.

However, evidence shows that not only are HBCUs necessary, but they are more relevant than ever. Some of the esteemed leaders of our nation's HBCUs explain why.

“The question for HBCUs today is how will our leadership and excellence impact today's society and the next generation?”

—PRESIDENT
WAYNE A. I. FREDERICK
HOWARD UNIVERSITY



1

HBCUS STILL HAVE A DOMESTIC ROLE TO PLAY

Some argue that HBCUs aren't as relevant because the doors of all colleges are open to people of all races. However, "HBCUs are necessary today because, in spite of increasing opportunities, access is still a major problem for minority students," said Howard University President Wayne A. I. Frederick (B.S. '92, M.D. '94, M.B.A. '11).

Indeed a 2015 analysis by media outlets The Hechinger Report and The Huffington Post found that only 5 percent of college students at the nation's largest public universities were Black.

HBCUs also continue to play a major role in addressing policies that affect minorities on a national level, such as social justice, discrimination and economic parity.

"The gravity of our domestic affairs, especially the status and condition of disposed and oppressed minorities, presents a serious problem and historically Black colleges and universities are the solution," Frederick said.

2

HBCUS OFFER MORE THAN ACADEMICS

HBCUs provide a sense of nurturing that many non-HBCUs do not, as well as a respect for the history and culture of African Americans. For students, that can create feelings of acceptance that they might not experience in a different environment.

"We have quite a few students who have been living in predominantly White neighborhoods," said Morgan State University President David Wilson, Ed.D. "Some of them have had some experiences in those places that have led them to conclude that they are not as valued. They seek us out because they want their college experience to be in a place that says to them: 'You're OK. You don't have to prove anything here based on your race.'"

Students of color at HBCUs also benefit from a faculty that is more likely to be committed to the success of African-American students than on non-HBCU campuses, said Bowie State University President Mickey L. Burnim, Ph.D. In fact, a 2015 study by Gallup called the "Gallup-USA Funds Minority College Graduates Report" found that 58 percent of Black graduates of HBCUs recall having professors who cared about them as people, compared to only 25 percent of Black graduates at non-HBCUs. "That can make a difference in the performance and the achievement levels of students, as well as the self-confidence and the self-image that is developed," Burnim said.

That can also lead to a more successful life after college. Indeed, the Gallup report found that 55 percent of Black HBCU graduates say their university prepared them well for life outside of college compared to 29 percent of Black non-HBCU graduates.

3

HBCUS RESPOND TO A CHANGING WORKFORCE

HBCUs were founded to provide a basic education, Burnim said, but today, “HBCUs offer baccalaureate degrees, master’s degrees and degrees. So we’ve gone from very basic, rudimentary educational vehicles for people that have been denied opportunity altogether for generations, to some of the best educational and research institutions of higher education in the country.”

There also are a vast number of academic offerings to choose from. “Students interested in any area can find an HBCU that will meet their needs, including common programs like accounting, education and psychology or unique programs like golf management, prosthetics and tropical meteorology,” said **Leslie D. W. Jones (B.S. ’94, M.A. ’97)**, founder of www.thehundred-seven.org, a website that compiles information on academic programs that HBCUs offer.

The nation’s Black colleges and universities also have been leaders in some areas such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. According to the National Science Foundation, HBCUs produce 27 percent of African-American students with bachelor’s degrees in STEM fields, though HBCUs only make up 3 percent of colleges and universities. Not only that, but 21 of the top 50 educational institutions for educating Blacks who go on to receive a doctorate in science or engineering are HBCUs.

“HBCUs graduate 50 percent of African Americans who go on to teach and 60 percent of African Americans who become healthcare professionals,” Frederick said. “Without HBCUs, the nation and the world would suffer a major loss.”

“HBCUs have proven over time that they provide the field of higher education with profound outcomes that other segments of higher education have not been able to replicate.”

—PRESIDENT
WAYNE A. I. FREDERICK
HOWARD UNIVERSITY

4

HBCUS HELP TO CREATE ECONOMIC PARITY

Historically, HBCUs helped to create a Black middle class in the United States, Wilson said. Today, they continue to give a larger proportion of low-income Americans an opportunity to get the education that can improve their economic standing.

According to the 2017 study by the Education Trust called “A Look at Black Student Success: Identifying Top- and Bottom-Performing Institutions,” half of HBCUs had a freshman class in which three-quarters of students were from low-income backgrounds. Only 1 percent of non-HBCUs had such a high percentage of low-income students.

The need to accommodate low-income students is unlikely to lessen in the near future. “The majority of students right now attending public K-12 schools in the United States qualify for free and reduced lunches,” Wilson said. “What that means is that HBCUs have a critical role to play in ensuring that those individuals who are part of that growing population in the United States that is increasingly poor—our campuses must be there to provide them entrée into the middle class.”

5

HBCUS PROMOTE DIVERSITY

Contrary to popular opinion, HBCUs do not just cater to African-American students.

“Although Congress defines a Historically Black College or University as a school ‘established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of Black Americans,’ HBCUs are not minority-serving institutions,” Frederick explained. “This means that HBCUs are not exclusively for African-American students or faculty—and have always enrolled students of all races and ethnicities.”

In fact, a 2015 report titled “From Matriculation to Engagement on Campus: Delineating the Experiences of Latino/a Students at a Public Historically Black University” by researchers from Morgan State University, State University of New York, Binghamton and University of Texas at Arlington found that 76 percent of HBCU students were Black, and 24 percent were of other races and ethnicities.

There also is diversity under the HBCU umbrella, itself. HBCUs are not monolithic. Different schools have unique strengths that would appeal to different students. “Just because we all carry the descriptor ‘HBCU’ doesn’t mean that we’re all the same in any respect,” Burnim said.

HBCUs also are critical to producing a diverse workforce. According to The Network Journal, 40 percent of Black congressmen, 50 percent of Black lawyers and 80 percent of Black judges graduated from HBCUs.

“Higher education is one of the greatest economic escalators in this nation,” Frederick said. “HBCUs have proven over time that they provide the field of higher education with profound outcomes that other segments of higher education have not been able to replicate.” ■HU



Janay's grandparents,
Marion David Smiley and
Gloria Marie Lyman both
attended HBCU's.

Keeping It

ALL IN THE FAMILY

FOR SOME BLACK FAMILIES, CARRYING
ON THE GENERATIONAL TRADITION OF
ATTENDING AN HBCU IS A NO-BRAINER.

BY CASSANDRA SPRATLING

he didn't know where she'd go to college. But there's one thing Janay Marriel Smith (B.S.M.E. '94) knew for sure.

It would be one of the nation's historically Black colleges and universities.

Smith grew up in a family whose roots in HBCUs run deep and wide. Her family has a longstanding commitment to historically Black colleges and universities and the legacy of scholarship and service instilled in their students.

She's the third generation of her family to earn a college education at an HBCU.

That family tradition began with her maternal grandparents, Marion David Smiley and Gloria Marie Lyman.

Smiley attended Tuskegee Institute, earned an undergraduate degree from Alabama State and a master's of education degree in 1962 from Alabama A&M in Huntsville.

Lyman graduated from Xavier University in New Orleans.

The HBCU tradition continued with Smith's parents.

Her mother, Thelma Yvette Smiley, graduated with honors with a degree in accounting from the then-Hampton Institute (now Hampton University) in 1970. Yvette Smiley-Smith—as most people came to know her—established her own barrier-breaking accounting firm and was an ardent consumer and civil rights advocate.

Smith's father was the late legendary litigator Jock Michael Smith. He graduated from Tuskegee Institute in 1970 and went on to become one of the nation's leading civil rights attorneys. He earned his law degree from the University of Notre Dame, where he was a founding member of the Black Law Students Association.

Though he lived in Montgomery, Alabama, Jock Michael Smith, kept his law practice near his beloved Tuskegee, Alabama. It was from that Tuskegee office that he earned a national reputation as a top-notch attorney. Among many of his multimillion-dollar victories was an \$80 million verdict in 2000 against a company for defrauding an

elderly Black woman. Four years later, he won a landmark \$1.62 billion against Southwestern Life Insurance Company.

Jock Smith also amassed a sports memorabilia collection so phenomenal that items from it form the nucleus of the sports gallery in the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.

The family's allegiance to HBCUs goes even deeper in Alabama's rich, dark soil. Janay Smith's family has reigned at the helm of Trenholm State Community College, formerly Trenholm State Technical College, in Montgomery almost continuously since its doors opened in 1966. Her great-uncle Lucious Smiley was its first president. Her grandfather, Marion David Smiley, served as president from 1970 to 1981, and the

current president, Samuel Munnerlyn, is her uncle.

Another branch of the family tree also is rooted in HBCUs. A cousin she grew up with, Edmond Michael Franklin (D.D.S. '08), a dentist in Atlanta, graduated with a bachelor's in finance from Morehouse in 1993. He later earned his dental degree from Howard University School of Medicine. Both of his parents are Xavier graduates, who met while attending that university in the 1960s.

'Howard Chose Me'

It's against that backdrop that the 18-year-old version of Janay Marriel Smith, an only child raised in a support circle of high-achieving scholars, started looking for colleges.

Three criteria guided her selection.



Janay Marriel Smith (left) and with her parents, Yvette and Jock .

No. 1, it had to be an HBCU. She had grown up hearing about the scholarship, service and commitment to making a better, more just world that HBCUs drill into their students. Plus, she'd heard plenty about the big fun and life-long connections that spring from HBCU campuses.

"Growing up, all my life, both my parents always went back to their universities for homecoming," she recalled. "And they've always been activists for what's right. I just felt like those kind of people exist more at HBCUs."

No. 2, it had to have an accredited mechanical engineering program.

No. 3, it had to be far enough from Montgomery, Alabama that neither her

parents—nor any other doting relative—could easily drop in on her.

dling various roles, including fulfilling a longtime fun dream to work as a comedienne—J Smiles is her stage name—and managing her father's world-class sports memorabilia collection.

It includes the nation's largest authenticated, privately owned collection of game-worn uniforms in the United States. The Smithsonian has 44 pieces from the 10,000-plus collection. Among them are the track cleats Jesse Owens wore in the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, autographed Joe Louis gloves, a Jackie Robinson jersey and bat and one of Serena Williams' fashionable outfits.

Pieces from the collection also fueled an interactive sports exhibit center started by

before legislation. Brown vs. Board of Education was decided seven or eight years after Jackie Robinson broke the color line. The chances of a little Black boy and a little White boy becoming friends are greater if you put them on the field in the same uniform."

After his father's death, teachers didn't expect Jock Smith, Black boy whose attorney father died when he was 8, to amount to much. He determined he would be a success, and Tuskegee Institute laid the groundwork. He went on to teach there and served on its board of trustees, in addition to running his law practice from offices nearby, while maintaining his home in Montgomery.

Jock Smith's memorabilia in the National Museum of African American History and Culture tells his story as well as the story of the items he collected.

In 2016, Jock's wife, Yvette, and daughter, Janay, donated his law building—a stately antebellum-era mansion on the National Historic Register—to Tuskegee University. The university plans to use it as a development office and alumni center that showcases what a proud alumnus can accomplish, his daughter said.

HBCU Success

Janay Smith credits her own multifaceted success to the nurturing, encouragement, networking and knowledge she gained at Howard, not just from its esteemed faculty, but from the relationships developed with students as well.

“You don't know the breadth and scope of what we've accomplished as a people until you're immersed in an HBCU”

Dr. Edmond Michael Franklin

parents—nor any other doting relative—could easily drop in on her.

"I knew that if I stayed in Alabama, I'd never grow up," she said. "They'd bring me food and do my laundry."

The second she stepped out of a cab onto Howard's bustling campus in 1989, she knew it was where she'd go to college.

"I literally felt a spirit energy pass through my body. The Bison air filled my lungs," Smith recalled. "Before I'd talked to a single student or faculty member—I hadn't even paid the cab driver—I said, 'I'm going here. It was as if Howard chose me; I didn't choose it.'"

Howard University proved to be the right choice.

From Product Design to Law to Comedy to Sports Memorabilia

Her bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering launched a career that has taken her to countries around the world and provided the foundation to earn a master's degree in product design from Stanford University in California and eventually, a law degree from Cumberland Law School at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, in 2007.

Smith is now based in Atlanta, han-

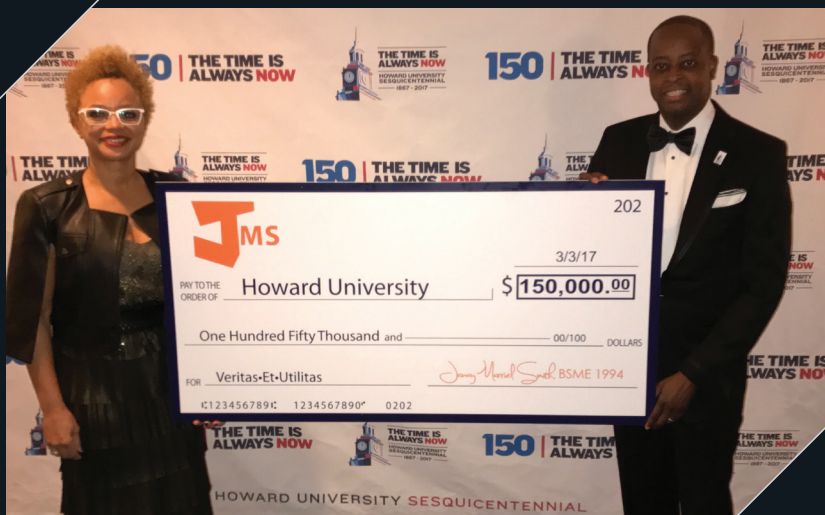
her father and other partners in Las Vegas. She helped run it after his 2012 passing, until the exhibit closed in 2015.

Jock Smith's collection began as a hobby started after his wife bought him a gift from a hobby store that she knew he'd appreciate: a miniature bronze replica of Hank Aaron.

"My father went bananas," Janay Smith recalled. "My dad loved sports. He believed that sports was a great change agent in America. Sports changed minds



Pieces from Jock Smith's memorabilia collection featured in the National Museum of African American Culture and History's football display



Janay Marriel Smith (B.S.M.E. '94) made a generous personal gift of \$150,000 to the College of Engineering and Architecture during the University's 2017 Charter Day Weekend. The \$150,000 gift was given in the spirit of Howard's 150th Anniversary.

"I made lifelong friends on Howard's yard," she said. "Being broke was never fun, but there were times we were all broke. We'd find a way to pool our money and buy enough chicken wings to feed all of us."

Her Howard experience interacting with students from all over the country and the world propelled her to take advantage of overseas opportunities when she worked in corporate America.

"Going to Howard, you have experiences with students from other countries on a very personal level," she said. "It's like you become one family. I was in class with the children of kings in Africa and other students who'd fled persecution because of civil wars in their countries. There were people who had been sleeping in dirt ditches and two months later, we were in English class together. You learn first-hand about other cultures and how the U.S. is perceived by other countries. You learn that there are places that might not have things we take for granted, like gasoline or even food because the infrastructure is so bad there's no way to get it to the people who need it."

There's also a bond that develops between students and faculty that's less likely to happen on a large, impersonal campus, she said.

Her affection for Howard goes beyond

the students and faculty she met in classrooms.

While encouraging individuality, Howard further instilled principles she'd first learned at home: the importance of service to mankind and doing whatever one could to make life better for everyone.

She took those principles to heart, and they thrust her into leadership positions on campus, including freshman class president, president of the School of Engineering Student Council as well as active participation in the national organizations for Black engineers and women engineers.

She also was a board member of a student group called the Cultural Imitative that planned and presented national hip-hop conferences annually for five years beginning in 1991. They attracted musicians, writers, rappers, promoters, music educators and others to Howard's campus, including Sean "Puffy" Combs who, along with other artists, became a regular presence on the campus.

"What makes students think they can put together a hip-hop conference that will attract artists and executives from all over the country?" she asked. "Howard! We did it, and we *still* went to class."

HBCU Racial Pride Instilled

Her cousin, Dr. Edmond Michael Franklin, offered another reason for the

family's affection for HBCUs: the racial pride they instill.

"You don't know the breadth and scope of what we've accomplished as a people until you're immersed in an HBCU," Franklin said. "We need to know, especially in this day and age, the things Black people have done that have made this society and the world a better place."

The Smiths and Franklins also are members of Black Greek life, which is very much a part of HBCU history and culture.

Both Franklin and his father, Edmond Franklin, a pharmacist, are members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. His mother, Carletté Lee Franklin, a retired medical technologist, is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, as is Edmond Michael Franklin's wife, Vivian Howard Franklin, who attended Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

Janay Smith's dad also was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha. She and her mother, Yvette Smiley-Smith, are both members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., which was founded on Howard's campus in 1913.

Pledging Delta at the University where it was founded gave its principles of scholarship, service and sisterhood special meaning to her, Janay Smith said.

"Being a Delta at Alpha Chapter was a huge honor and a major responsibility for carrying on the mission of the sorority's founders," she said. "There were all these fantastic women who came before us. There was a strong urge to rise to the call of being a Delta woman."

That meant being actively involved in community service on campus and off campus and being leaders in other organizations, all while maintaining high GPAs.

"Delta at Howard helped me manage my time, my mind, my energy and my direction," she said. "We're taught that you're supposed to effect positive change. We're taught that there are no excuses; do the work."

That no-excuses, find-a-way, can-do, will-do attitude was reinforced throughout her Howard experience and serves her still, she said.

"I always say, I was reared in Montgomery, but I became an adult at Howard University," Smith said. "I don't know who or where I'd be without Howard." ■ **HU**

'40s

Horace A. Davenport, B.A. 1946, died March 21, 2017. Davenport was drafted into the U.S. Army and served as an engineer in WWII. After graduating from Howard, he received his M.S. and a bachelor of laws from the University of Pennsylvania. Davenport opened his own private practice. He was a renowned attorney. Some of his most significant accomplishments include being a founding partner of the law firm Gerber Davenport and Wilzenik; becoming the first African-American judge to sit on the Common Pleas Court in Montgomery County, Maryland; and being a trustee of the Florida Sunburst Scholarship Foundation. Davenport was heavily involved in his local and law communities. He was also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He was 98.

Rosalie Wilson Washington, F.H. Nursing Diploma 1946, died March 6, 2017. After graduating from Howard, Washington married her husband and had two children. She then worked as a registered nurse at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where she specialized in working with former surgeon-in-chief Dr. C. Everett Koop's patients. Later, Washington became a school nurse for the School District of Philadelphia. She earned her B.S. in education and a master's degree in administered. She also served as president of the Philadelphia Public School Nurses Association, which became the first union of registered nurses in the U.S. in 1972, for 14 years until her retirement in 1986. She was 93.

Kenneth W. Mahan, B.A. 1948; M.D. 1952, died Aug. 21, 2016. After graduating from Howard, Mahan was a practicing physician and surgeon in Jersey City for over 50 years. He was 91.

'50s

Mervell Winzer Bracewell, M.D., F.H. Nursing Diploma 1952, died Aug. 21, 2016. She was 88.

Richard Allan Smith, B.S. 1953; M.D. 1957, died March 10, 2017. He was 84.

Keith F. Anderson Sr., B.S. 1954; D.D.S. 1965, died Dec. 16, 2015. Anderson was drafted into the U.S. Navy and served in World War II. He later married his wife Evora in 1948 with whom he had four children. He also worked for Senator Kennedy in an administrative capacity in the 1960s. After leaving the military, Anderson attended Howard where he received his doctorate in dentistry. He worked as an anesthesiologist at Einstein Medical Center and transitioned into his full-time dental practice in the 1970s. He served as a professor of dentistry at Temple University Dental School, before becoming the director of Emergency Services at Temple Dental, where he served 25 upon retiring in 2000. Anderson was also a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and the president of Chi Delta Mu. He was 89.

Edward V. Wilson, D.D.S. 1957, died April 2, 2017. Wilson served as a medical tech in the U.S. Army and in the U.S. Army Reserve. After his service,

Wilson opened his dental practice in Philadelphia, where he practiced for 35 years. In 1968, he was on the founding board of directors of the American Negro Commemorative Society that produced collectable coins to recognize the contributions of African Americans in U.S. Society. Wilson also liked to travel and was a political adherent. He was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He was 90.

Doris Jeanne Henderson Brown, F.H. Nursing Diploma 1957, died June 13, 2016. After graduating from Howard, Brown began her long career as a registered nurse, most notably with the Department of Human Services, Nursing Clinical Services Division in Washington, D.C. After retiring as a registered nurse, she moved to New Orleans, where Brown spent 20 years before returning to D.C. Brown loved attending exciting events, such as Mardi Gras, the New Orleans Jazz Festival and the Essence Music Festival. She was 80.

Cherry Smith Richardson, F.H. Nursing Diploma 1957; B.A. 1969, died Nov. 23, 2016. After graduating from Howard, Richardson worked in the field of nursing in the Washington, D.C., area until her retirement from public health. She was a charter member of The People's Community Baptist Church, where she served as Chairwoman of the Deaconess Board and a member of the Generation One Ministry for seniors. Richardson also served as the first President of the Potomac Valley Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women. For over 20 years, she volunteered with the African American Festival of Academic Excellence, a program to promote education and excellence to students in the Montgomery County schools. She was 81.



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'60s

Levan Gordon, LL.B. 1961, died Oct. 4, 2016. After graduating from Howard, Gordon was elected to the Municipal Court in 1974 and was elected to the Court of Common Pleas in 1979. He served on the Philadelphia Human Relations Commission as the executive director of the Philadelphia Housing Information Service. Gordon was also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and served on several boards across the city, including Philadelphia's Community In Schools, an organization that supported and empowered students to stay in school.

Louis S. Isaacs, B.A. 1966, died March 7, 2017. After graduating from Howard, Isaacs worked in real estate for more than 40 years. He was an active instructor in his real estate school. Isaacs was also an active member and an ardent supporter of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers. In addition, he enjoyed attending Howard's Men of the 50s/60s semiannual luncheons. He was 76.

Lois Jane Price, F.H. Nursing Diploma 1966, died April 11, 2016. After graduating from Howard, Price worked at Pennsylvania Hospital, where she became the first Black Head Nurse of the Intensive Care Nursery in 1970. She was a member of the Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. Price also enjoyed sewing and embroidering. She was 76.

Harold James Cook, B.A., 1969; J.D., 1971, died Dec. 2, 2016. After graduating from Howard, he served as the second national executive secretary of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated. Later, he worked as a hearing officer for the D.C. Public School system. He was a world traveler, having visited six of the seven continents and served as a travel consultant for the Henderson Travel Service. Harold enjoyed putting thousands in touch with their roots around the world. He was a member of Big Brothers, Life Roads, and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated. He was 70.

'70s

Nancy Rutledge Simpson, F.H. Nursing Diploma 1970, died May 18, 2016.

John R. Hawkins III, L.A. B.A. 1971, died Feb. 3, 2017. Hawkins was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and attended several of the Howard Men of the 50s/60s luncheons in the past.

Deborah Alexander Dade, M.S. 1972, died Dec. 7, 2016. After graduating from Howard, Dade served as a pharmaceutical representative of Abbott Laboratories for 39 years. In retirement, she worked with the Light of Life Foundation, which focused on thyroid cancer awareness and education. She also endowed a scholarship at the Greater Apostolic Church Temple in Cincinnati. Dade was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She was 69.

Emma Luvenia Stephens, M.A. 1972, died Aug. 14, 2016. She was 72.

Doris E. Piggott Laurey, F.H. Nursing Diploma 1973, died April 30, 2016. After graduating from Howard, she served 44 years as an ICU/CCU Nurse. Laurey was also a member of Freedmen's Hospital Alumni Association, Class of 1973. She was 73.

Roger Desales Dent, B.B.A. 1974, died Sept. 27, 2014. After graduating from Howard, Dent earned his M.B.A. in Finance from Southeastern University. He went on to become a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in Maryland and Washington, D.C., also earning the designation of Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA). Dent retired after 21 years with the CPA firm of Gardiner Kanya & Associates, P.C., as vice president/principal. In addition to his academic and professional accomplishments, Dent was an accomplished and talented musician, serving as the bass guitarist for the D.C. Federation of Musicians and his church, Maple Springs Baptist Church. He was 63.

Delores Robinson Dudley, M.Ed. 1974, died June 5, 2016. After graduating from Howard, Dudley began her career as an English teacher in Beaufort Public Schools in Louisiana. She later returned to Washington, D.C., where she continued her teaching career in D.C. Public Schools. After retiring, Dudley served the public school system in many roles, dedicated to improving the reading and writing skills of at-risk children. She was also an active churchgoer, who loved hearing her husband sing in the church choir. She was 73.

Leon E. Butler, B.S. 1975, died April 4, 2017. Butler served in the U.S. Air Force before being accepting to Howard. During his undergraduate studies, he was a Rand Scholar Award recipient. After graduating from Howard, Butler earned his Ph.D. from SUNY at Buffalo School of Management. In Buffalo, he was assistant director at Model Cities and Vice President of Erie Community College City Campus. He has a library named in his honor. Butler held a director position at the University of Maryland, Downtown Baltimore Campus. In addition, he was the founder and president of the Delphi Network, Inc. in Columbia, Maryland. Butler enjoyed classical music, playing piano, and painting on oil and canvas. He was 80.

Bertrand Shipley Thomas, B.A. 1976; J.D. 1979, died Jan. 8, 2017.

Michele Marie Lapeyrolerie-Torian, B.A. 1976; D.D.S. 1980, died April 5, 2016. After graduating Lapeyrolerie-Torian, she entered into a general practice residency at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center in Newark, New Jersey. She went on to complete her postgraduate studies in endodontics at UMDNJ presently known as the Rutgers School of Dental Medicine. She also joined the Lapeyrolerie Group in private practice with her father and brother in East Orange, New Jersey. While in private practice, Michele was also employed at UMDNJ in the Department of Endodontics. Lapeyrolerie-Torian also served for two years as the President of the Commonwealth Dental Society of New Jersey, which is a component of the National Dental Association. She was 62.

'80s

Lionel L. Proctor, M.U.S. 1980, died June 3, 2016. After graduating from Howard, Proctor worked as a planner and inspector for the D.C. Office of Planning. Once he retired from this position, he obtained a real estate license and became a broker, employed at Long & Foster Real Estate and Gerrety & Bragg Real Estate. In addition, Proctor gave back to his community. He worked for the Coalition for the homeless Catholic Charities of D.C., taught real estate courses at Baltimore City Community College, and was a substitute teacher in D.C., Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. He also liked to travel and attend festivals and concerts. Proctor was a long-standing member of Shiloh Baptist Church and was a member of the Torch Bearers Circle. He was 69.

'10s

Derrell A. Graham Jr., B.B.A. 2013, died April 11, 2015. After graduating from Howard, Graham worked for MemorialCare Health System in Fountain Valley, California as a clerical assistant in the legal department. He later became a marketing assistant for the medical foundation. He loved spending time with family and friends, listening to music and traveling. He was 25.



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