

Editor's Letter



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Cover: Choir director James Weldon Norris and his colleagues are celebrating the Department of Music's centennial as they mentor a new generation of talent.

Front cover photo: Ceasar

Back cover: Ceasar

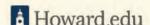
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A Musical Legacy on the Hilltop

If you scroll through the "Old School" playlist on my iPod, you'll hear Roberta Flack and Donny Hathaway belting out one of those classic melodies that garnered awards in the 1970s. Flip over to my "Opera" playlist and you'll hear Jessye Norman's lilting soprano. These three Howard alumni have been on my playlist for quite awhile, along with others, such as Kenny Latimore and Angela Bofill. But after completing this issue of Howard Magazine, which explores the musical legacy at the University, you'll find that Howard alumni populate a much larger space on my iPod than they did previously!

It's a musical legacy that extends back decades, with the Department of Music celebrating its centennial this year. It includes veterans who paved the original musical path at Howard (such as Benny Golson, Harold Wheeler, Shirley Horn, Donald Byrd and Richard Smallwood) and those who are crafting a new path (such as Afro Blue, Eric Roberson, Kenny Wesley and Shai Littlejohn). Some developed their skills in the Department of Music; others majored elsewhere but came back to their first love music. They all contributed to a volume of music that will entertain and inspire generations to come.

Also featured in this issue of *Howard Magazine* is an article that commemorates the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and examines the challenges that lie ahead. For those of

Alumni On the Move

We hear so many great stories about alumni making an impact in their careers and communities, but just don't have the space to publish articles about all of them in *Howard Magazine*. In the next few months, we plan to capture some of these amazing stories and post them on www.howard.edu/howardmag under Alumni On the Move. If you have a unique or fascinating story about an alumna or alumnus, please email us at magazine@howard.edu.

us who, like me, were born after these struggles, it is critical to connect to the past and celebrate those sung and, mostly, unsung heroes who protested and pushed to get the landmark legislation passed. We must never forget the sacrifices they made to create a more equitable society. The act outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Alumnus Damon J. Keith, whose book Crusader for Justice describes his journey through discrimation to become a federal judge,

explains very profoundly that the act "has been one of our best instruments to fight discrimination and create a society that we all deserve to live in."

We hope you enjoy this issue, and, as always, we welcome your feedback and encourage you to send us an email at magazine@howard.edu. Don't forget to download the magazine's mobile app on iTunes or visit us at www.howard.edu/howardmag. Have a wonderful summer!

Raven Padgett, Editor

Howard Magazine Summer 2014

HOWARD

features

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 The Department of Music celebrates 100 years of musical genius.
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 The Civil Rights Act turns 50 but challenges remain.



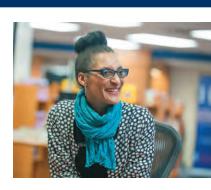
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The Arts Continue to Flourish at Howard

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

The arts have flourished at Howard for more than 142 years. We have embraced the arts as essential to the life and mission of the University. The first free-hand drawing class was offered in 1871, a few years after our founding in 1867. The Music Department is celebrating its 100th anniversary, the Art Department recently celebrated its 90th and the Depart-

ment of Theatre Arts has marked nearly 65 years.

This past semester, I attended the opening night of the Fine Arts Division's modern dance ballet, "Hamdan: Through the Gate of Tears." This excellent production was a result of a collaboration between Howard and the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art, which has begun a multiyear series of programming.

For many decades, Howard's arts and humanities programs have deeply influenced American cultural language and intellectual discourse. Our legacy is anchored in the belief that the arts provide rich experiences that help our students become creative and constructive global citizens. At Howard, we offer a rare combination of academic and cultural competence with professional training.

Howard's reach is broad, deep and worldwide: on stage, on screen, in television, in museums and galleries, in concert halls and in art history and cultural studies. Howard alumni, faculty and even students have made significant

contributions in all these areas—many as award-winning actors, playwrights, choreographers, vocalists, instrumentalists, design-

ers, artists, curators, professors and administrators.

Last fall, District of Columbia Mayor Vincent C. Gray honored the Division of Fine Arts during the 28th Annual Mayor's Arts Awards for its unparalleled contributions to arts education.

And in May, during our Commencement convocation, we honored Benny Golson, a multitalented and internationally renowned jazz legend. We celebrate his contributions to the field and his role as a sterling ambassador of the Capstone. He received an honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, witnessed by more than 2,600 graduates and the largest doctoral class in the history of the University. You will learn more about Golson in this issue of the magazine.

Also last month, Howard University's Vocal Jazz Studies Program received three 2014 *Downbeat Magazine* Student Music Awards. This marks the 10th *Downbeat* award to Howard's premier vocal jazz ensemble Afro Blue. They have been featured on NPR's *All Things Considered*, reached the top four on NBC's *The Sing-Off*, performed at the White House and teamed up with icons, including the legendary Bobby McFerrin.

We were joined this spring by the celebrated trumpeter Hugh Masekela as part of a semester-long tribute to the life and lessons of Nelson Mandela. Continued partnerships with Mr. Masekela and other pioneers will further enhance our programs and benefit our students. Without question, Howard's future in music, theater and the arts is thriving.

Yuvay Meyers Ferguson

By Erin E. Evans (B.A. '08)

Like many kids growing up during the '90s, Yuvay Meyers Ferguson's introduction to the HBCU experience was in living color on her television. Denise Huxtable went off to "a different world" at the fictional HBCU Hillman College. Cliff Huxtable was wearing Howard University sweatshirts. And Khadijah James was touting her experience running Howard's campus newspaper before starting her own magazine, Flavor.

"The fact that there were, in the '90s, a lot of positive imagery about HBCUs in pop culture, it really did make young people interested and strive to become a part of the University family," Ferguson said.

Today, Ferguson (B.B.A. '03) is a newly tenured associate professor in the School of Business, and next school year will chair the Department of Marketing. With her innovative instructional style, Ferguson has gained a reputation for excellence in teaching and is one of the highest-rated professors in the School of Business. She also has published widely and gained the respect of her peers in the field. Those early pop culture influences were Ferguson's first taste of how effective marketing could impact its target. The media imagery convinced her in the fifth grade that she would spend her collegiate career at Howard. Little did she know her professional life would bring her right back to the Hilltop.

She was a model student at Howard—editor-in-chief of the vearbook. team leader in the School of Businesstouting a résumé filled with internships and pursued a master's degree in strategic communications at American University. From there, she moved to Atlanta an few years. Atlanta and worked in advertising for a



But then she wanted a new challenge. She remembered one of her mentors' words about pursuing advanced degrees. In 2006, she packed her bags and entered the Ph.D. program in advertising at the University of Texas at Austin.

While pursuing the degree, she was a lecturer at Huston-Tillotson University, a small HBCU in Austin. She always dreamed of working at an HBCU. Washington, D.C.—and the Howard family-called her home, where she started teaching in fall 2008.

Ferguson teaches undergraduate seniors about consumer behavior, marketing communications and sports marketing, and teaches MBA students in brand management classes. To keep her students engaged with their classwork, she often reaches out to her Howard network so her students can do hands-on marketing work.

Take one of her spring 2014 projects: Her marketing communications class

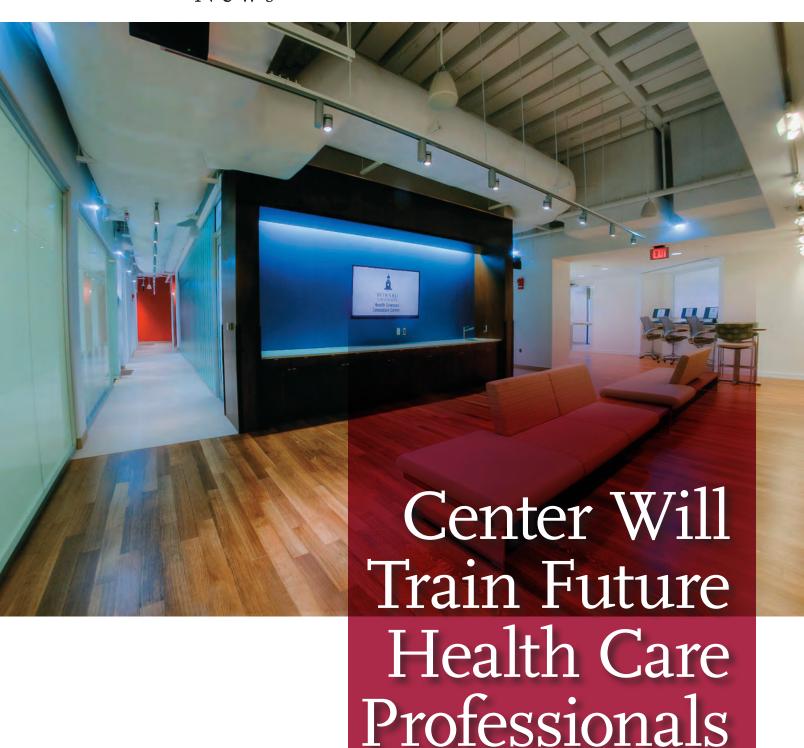
worked with General Motors to promote two new Cadillacs. The students used \$3,000 to promote the event around campus, design fliers, build social media campaigns and host giveaways. General Motors received next-to-free promotions of its new fleet, and the students had tangible work to add to their marketing

Ferguson prides herself on giving her students practical projects with top corporations. The students appreciate her teaching style, too. She recalls that when she submitted her credentials to be considered for tenure, she received several dozen supportive letters from them.

"I don't know if I would be who I am without having my students making me work hard to impress them," Ferguson said. "I try to step up to the plate every day." **H**U

Evans is a writer based in Maryland.

On Campus News





Howard University unveiled a \$5 million simulation center earlier this year, providing students with hands-on hospital experience. The 6,000-square-foot facility will serve as an integral part of training for more than 800 health sciences students at Howard.

The new center houses five high-tech human patient simulators that generate pulses and other vital signs. The physical space consists of an operating room, an intensive care/emergency room and a task training/surgical skills suite.

"This high-tech educational space affords our students the opportunity for deliberate practice in a team-based environment and aids in continuing Howard University's legacy of producing compassionate and caring global health care professionals," said Debra Ford (B.S. '82; M.D. '86), medical director of the simulation center.

The simulation center will complement the Clinical Skills Center, which allows medical, nursing, pharmacy and allied health students, Howard University Hospital residents and medical fellows to practice treating patients in a controlled environment.



First Lady Michelle Obama and students from Chicago's public schools tour Howard University on the first day of a four-day visit to the campus. The visit was part of a program sponsored by student members of the Chicago People's Union and designed to immerse talented high school students in college campus environments. A roundtable discussion followed the April 17 tour.

On Campus



Members of the Happy Project HU. (Bottom row, I-r, Todd Legette, Maia Miller, Tyler Scott. Top row, I-r, Kayla Burns-Shelton, Kalyn Jacobs, Javon McLester, Alana Wise)

Happiness at HU

With more than 300,000 views on YouTube, the Happy Project HU video has brought joy to thousands of Bison all over the world. The video, produced by a team of nine Howard University film students, is a remake of the music video for Pharrell Williams' Oscar-nominated song "Happy," and features students and faculty dancing across campus to the upbeat and catchy tune.

Since its launch Jan. 21, the Howard "Happy" video has reached the attention of BET, Oprah Winfrey's OWN TV, Columbia Records and even Williams himself, who tweeted the link on his official Twitter account.

after reluctantly returning home during Thanksgiving break.

"After a stressful semester, I just needed a release," Miller says. "When I first saw the original 'Happy' video over the break, I knew it was the perfect outlet to let go of the trials of the previous semester."

When Miller returned to campus, she found a faculty advisor, recruited a production team, sought dancers and got clearance from the Office of University Communications, all in one week. Prior to the release of the video, she obtained legal permission to use the song by Sony

and Universal Studios. Altogether, her team finished the production in slightly over one month.

They promoted the project on social media, reaching more than 15,000 views in less than one day. Despite their faith in the project, no one expected such a positive reaction so quickly.

"When I saw the video, I was proud of what the team accomplished, but I didn't expect the reaction it got," says Candy Shannon Lewis, lecturer of media, journalism and film in the School of Communications and the faculty advisor for the project. "Even a friend of mine in Switzerland contacted me about the video!"

The Happy Project HU encouraged a chain reaction of positivity and Bison pride. The Office of Admission broadcast the video during Accepted Students Day, and supporters have shared it on social media and in classrooms.

"I hope this video encourages students to have the confidence to work on more projects and continue making a difference," Miller says. "There is so much talent at Howard that we need to capitalize on. That's what makes this such an inspiring and happy place to be."

Check out the Howard University Happy video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCD4gBNOD28.





(MS)² Students "Best in State" in App Competition

An all-girls team from the Howard University Middle School of Mathematics and Science (MS)² won the "Best in State" title during Verizon's Innovative App Challenge.

Of the 1,300 entries in the competition, 81 finalists made it to the "Best in State" round. The middle school students were selected as the only "Best in State" winner from the Washington, D.C., area. Their app, Build Central, assists builders and architects in the construction process. The students were assisted by Clearly Innovative Inc., a Washington-based mobile solutions provider.

"We are on cloud nine because their hard work paid off," said Patrick Gusman, the group's advisor, who teaches computer science and technology. "It's essential that students learn the latest technology and for local businesses to invest in educational programs."

"We are extremely proud of our students for their achievement," said Yohance Maqubela, the middle school's executive director. "The high achievement by this group of young ladies further demonstrates that our investment in STEM is delivering results."

Haiti's President Speaks on Rebuilding the Education System

Haitian President Michel Martelly spoke passionately about his focus on revamping Haiti's education system during a visit to the main campus in February. He also urged the Howard community to continue its support of the nation.

"When I ran for president, education was a key part of my campaign platform," Martelly said. "I found it unacceptable and shameful that many Haitian children were not going to school because their parents could not afford school fees."

The devastating earthquake of 2010 killed nearly 200,000 people and caused widespread damage to infrastructure, including nearly 4,000 schools. Martelly said approximately 125 schools had been restored and equipped with computer labs and Internet access.

"As proud as we are of the progress we made, we still have a long way to go. Meanwhile we are doing all we can to ensure that our children get the quality education they need and deserve," he said.

And while education is highly valued in Haitian culture—according to Martelly, families typically spent 40 percent of their income to send their children to school—many students and their families cannot afford the school fees. Martelly has been combating these statistics by providing free universal education for primary school students.

"I am proud to report that nearly 1.3 million primary school-aged children have



been enrolled in school as part of my government's education program," he says.

In addition to renovating the educational system for primary school students, Martelly wants to provide more higher-education opportunities to older youth and adults. He acknowledged the Howard community's contributions to the growing success of the country. (Howard students and faculty members have held fundraisers and traveled to Haiti to provide tutoring, medical and reconstruction assistance.) Martelly said Haiti would also welcome graduate students to do research fellowships and internships at Haitian educational institutions.

"Education frees us from ignorance and servitude," Martelly said. "Education allows a human being to reach their fullest potential and to understand and transform the world around them."

Colloquium Turns 25

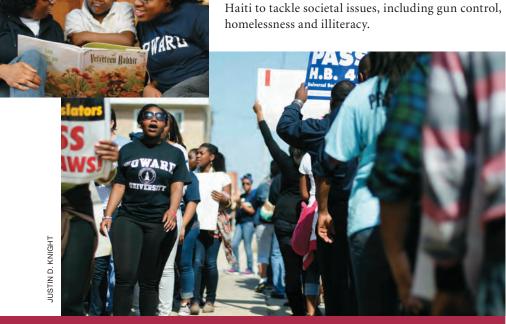
The Department of Art hosted the 25th Annual James A. Porter Colloquium on African-American Art and Art of the African Diaspora in April. Named after a pioneering Howard University art historian and professor, the colloquium is the leading forum for scholars, artists and curators, as well as enthusiasts, in the field of African-American art and visual culture. The colloquium's theme—"Bridging the Past to the Present: African American Contributions in Public Art"—examined the contributions of Black artists in the public space.

On Campus

ASB: Through the Years

The Alternative Spring Break (ASB) program has fostered a spirit of service and leadership among Howard University students for 20 years. Through the years, students and staff have rebuilt communities, mentored K–12 students and lobbied for gun control in communities wracked by violence. ASB underscores Howard's

motto of *veritas et utilitas*, or Truth and Service. This year, more than 400 students volunteered more than 16,000 hours in Baltimore, Chicago, Detroit, Memphis, New Orleans, Washington, D.C., and Haiti to tackle societal issues, including gun control, homelessness and illiteracy.



Instagram Captures the New Howard Experience



Howard University recently launched its official Instagram account, @HUBison, as a way to capture today's "Howard experience." The photo-driven social media account allows students to share what they see and helps alumni stay connected to their *alma mater*. The account features photography from current students, alumni, staff and others who are capturing new moments in Howard's history.

Follow the official Howard University account, @HUBison, today and get a fresh look at what is going on, from the Valley to the Yard and everywhere in between.



Studying the Economic Well-Being of Ministry Students

The School of Divinity received a \$250,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to support the school's effort to improve the economic well-being of future ministers. The grant comes as part of a \$12.3 million award given to 51 theological schools across the United States.

The grant, "Theological School Initiative to Address Economic Issues Facing Future Ministers," will allow the School of Divinity to create programs with the goal of improving the financial literacy of future religious leaders, with a particular focus on reducing student loan debt.

"We are honored to receive this funding from the Lilly Endowment," said Alton B. Pollard III, dean of the school (pictured above). "The funds will be used to examine and strengthen our financial and educational practices, which address professional financial stewardship as well as sound, theologically informed education."

Faculty Awards



Quito Swan, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of History, was named a 2014 University Teachers Fellow of the National Endowment

for the Humanities. The eight-month fellowship provides Swan with \$33,000 to support research for his book about Pauulu Kamarakafego, an ecological engineer and political activist from Bermuda. Swan will travel to the South Pacific Islands to conduct research on the African Diaspora, Black Power and Pan-Africanism movements in Australia, Vanuatu, New Guinea and Fiji.

Anna K. Allen, Ph.D., assistant professor

in the Department of Biology, received a \$450,444 grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to fund the acquisition of a spinning disc fluorescent



confocal microscope. Allen and a team of researchers will use the new imaging system to tackle a variety of biological issues, including identifying new components of the cell cycle as well as better understanding neurons in mental health disorders such as depression and drug abuse in order to design more effective therapeutic drugs. The spinning disc confocal system will also allow the department to incorporate live cell imaging into its undergraduate and graduate courses.

Jason S. Matthews, Ph.D. (B.S. '94),



professor in the Department of Chemistry, received a \$200,000 grant from the Department of Energy, National Energy

Technology Laboratory for research in the fight against global warming. The two-year research project is centered on the development of new processes to capture pure carbon dioxide—CO₂—and generate electricity. Completion of the research will introduce a novel, low-cost and environmentally friendly synthetic strategy for the preparation of core-shell particles and greatly minimize CO₂ emissions from coal-fired power plants and, consequently, reduce global warming.



William Lawson, M.D., Ph.D. (B.S. '66), professor and chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in the

College of Medicine, was named the 2014 recipient of the Solomon Carter Fuller Award by the American Psychiatric Foundation. Lawson is president of the D.C. chapter of Mental Health America.

New Coach Takes the Field



Phillip Gyau (B.S. '87) was named head coach of the men's soccer team. Gyau brings more than 20 years of experience to the position as a respected

coach and a former U.S. National Team Player. Since 1998, he has placed 20 players on youth national teams. He also played in six national championships and won four of them. In 2007 and 2011, the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference named him Coach of the Year. In 2007, he was inducted into the Maryland Soccer Hall of Fame.



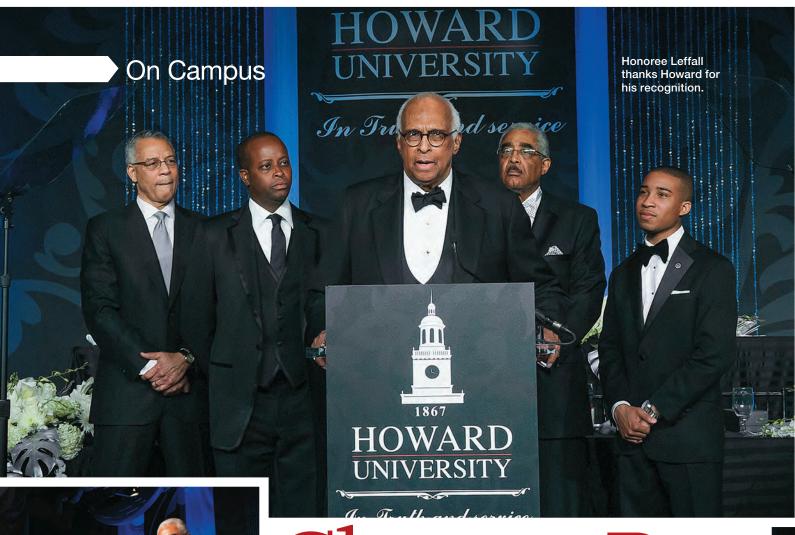
New businesses, including Potbelly and Fuel Pizza, are breathing new life onto Georgia Avenue on the main campus.

Howard's Bookstores to Get a Makeover

Howard University and Barnes & Noble College announced a partnership in March, bringing with it a new name and look. Barnes & Noble College now manages daily operations for the Howard University bookstores. The new "Barnes & Noble at Howard University" officially opened April 7 and the current space will undergo a remodel throughout the summer. The partnership will offer an expanded inventory of ebooks; a textbook rental program to lower costs for students; a new website and e-commerce for the main campus and the School of Law; and FacultyEnlight, a new online faculty textbook adoption resource.

Check out the website: howard.bncollege.com.

JUSTIN D. KNIGHT (3); CEASAR (2)



Charter Day 2 2 2 1 2 1

Bernard accepts the Capstone Award from President Frederick and Chairman Rand. During his keynote speech at this year's Charter Day Convocation on March 7, Jamie Dimon, board chairman and chief executive of JPMorgan Chase & Co., challenged Howard students to work hard and maintain fortitude.

"Each one of you has an opportunity to be a leader—to bend the arc of history that Martin Luther King spoke about," he said.

The following evening, Howard hosted one of the largest Charter Day dinners in school history, with 1,800 guests gathering at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Wayne A.I. Frederick (B.S. '92 N.D. '94; M.B.A. '11), interim president of Howard, announced nearly \$10 million in gifts to the University. Award-winning actress Phylicia Rashad (B.F.A. '70) was the mistress of ceremonies.

Arthur Reynolds and Robert McLeod were recognized for a \$4.9 million gift from the Richard Francis Jones Trust. (Jones was a former chief of urology at Howard.) Alfred C. Liggins was also acknowledged for his gift of \$4 million to the University in honor of his mother, Radio One chairperson/founder Cathy

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Honoree Bath







Hughes. The gift will benefit the School of Communications.

The University honored four alumni for their extraordinary accomplishments in their respective fields: Patricia E. Bath (M.D. '68), in medicine, ophthalmology and research; T. Eloise Foster (B.A. '68), in public service; James H. Johnson Jr., (B.S.C.E. '69), in STEM education; and LaSalle D. Leffall Jr. (M.D. '52), in medicine, surgery and public health. Nesta Bernard (B.A. '74), vice president for development and alumni relations, received the inaugural Capstone Distinguished Service Award for three decades of dedicated service to Howard University.

This year's Charter Day celebration marked the 147th anniversary of the charter enacted by Congress and subsequently approved by President Andrew Johnson on March 2, 1867, that established Howard University.



Honoree Foster with President Frederick

Alumna Rashad served as mistress of ceremonies.

Summer 2014 Howard Magazine $\, {f I} \,$







Afro Blue gained national recognition on NBC's The Sing-Off.



From the spirituals that sprang up during slavery to the rise of such musical art forms as jazz, blues, gospel, soul and hip-hop, African Americans have had a profound influence on the evolution of music as an art form in the United States and across the globe.

Music courses have been offered on Howard University's campus since 1870, and is now "an official, codified program of study at Howard," says Sais Kamalidiin, Ph.D. (Mus.Ed. '89), interim chair

of the Department of Music. It was the first music program in the Washington, D.C., area to gain membership into the National Association of Schools of Music in 1942. Since 1998, the Department of Music has been one of three core areas within the Division of Fine Arts in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"The legacy of music here at Howard University is extremely rich," Kamalidiin says. To celebrate that legacy, Howard musicians are paying homage to that history this year through a variety of commemorative performances. In February, the Annual Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert featured jazz legend Hubert Laws. And in April, an Alumni Jazz Concert at Cramton Auditorium showcased the talents of past and present members of vocal jazz ensemble Afro Blue, the Howard University Jazz Ensemble and renowned pianist and alumna Geri Allen (Mus.B. '79).

"We're very proud of what transpired here, and we just want to do everything we can to expand and enlarge a part of that legacy," Kamalidiin says.

The Pivotal Role of Music

There has always been a strong tradition of music at Howard University. The Fine Arts building is named after Lulu Vere Childers, a pioneering music educator who founded what was once called the School of Music. And, not only does the Department of Music have a strong history of instrumental music, including full orchestras and concert bands, but its vocal tradition has flourished as well, Kamalidiin says.

The Howard University Choir is an example of the prominence of vocal performance at Howard. Since 1973, conductor James Weldon Norris, D.Mus., has led the choir in performances at venues as varied as the International Choral Festival in Rome; the International Choral Festival in Tokyo; and the first International Festival of University Choirs in Valencia, Spain. Through its travels, the choir has received international acclaim. Kamalidiin recalls traveling to Zimbabwe, where he met someone who showed him

I4. Howard Magazine Summer 2014



traveling to Zimbabwe, where he met someone who showed him his collection of Howard University Choir albums in storage.

The students have benefited as much from the travel as they have from performing, Norris says. "You can learn more in two weeks traveling than three months in the classroom."

The choir has also received numerous accolades domestically and, since 1974, has performed for every U.S. president at the White House.

The Jazz Era

In the early 1970s, the jazz program was instituted and gained international prominence through a group called the Blackbyrds that was formed on Howard's campus by educator Donald Byrd.

In 1975, Fred Irby III, professor of music, founded the Howard University Jazz Ensemble (HUJE) to fulfill accreditation requirements by the National Association of Schools of Music. The "If the Division of Fine Arts is the heart, then music is the University's soul."

HUJE has performed all over the world, collaborated with the Washington Ballet and been featured in the Kennedy Center Honors Gala in 1992, 1996 and 2005.

"The most meaningful trip for HUJE was in 1986 to Beijing, China," Irby says. "We were the first jazz band—professional or collegiate—to perform in the People's Republic of China."

For Christopher Steele (B.A. '13), who is now a graduate student in trombone performance, the highlight of his time with the HUJE was the trip to Japan his freshman year.

"We were almost like celebrities there," Steele says. "People really enjoyed our music, so that spoke to me because I love how music affects people."

This year HUJE will record its 40th consecutive album, and next year they will travel to Japan for the fifth time. "The HUJE gives students the opportunity to see the world, perform with major jazz artists and document their artistry at a very young age," Irby says.

2000



Reaching New Audiences

One of the more recent success stories to come out of the Department of Music is Afro Blue, the premier vocal jazz ensemble formed in 2002 by Connaitre Miller, coordinator of Jazz Vocal Studies. The group describes its music as being similar to the styles of Lambert, Hendricks and Ross; The Manhattan Transfer; and Take 6, with their own unique sound added to the mix.

In 2011, Afro Blue reached the top four on NBC TV's music competition *The Sing-Off.* "That gave us the opportunity to introduce not just Afro Blue, but Howard University and also jazz to a much wider audience," Miller says.

Some members of Afro Blue who performed on the show have since graduated, but they've gone on to create a group called Traces of Blue. "Every time they go out and perform together, they're still representing Howard," Miller says.

Afro Blue has performed many times at the John F. Kennedy Center for The Performing Arts, where they have opened for The Manhattan Transfer and Jon Hendricks and performed with the National Symphony Orchestra. In 2013, they performed at Harlem's Apollo Theater with Geri Allen. Afro Blue's relationship with Allen has been particularly fruitful; she has worked with the group for eight of its 12 years.

"She has done so much for us because she has given us the opportunity to learn from her," Miller says. "She's been a mentor but also a promoter, because through our relationship with her, we've been able to perform with other artists," including Diane Reeves, Lizz Wright and Esperanza Spalding. This past January, Spalding asked Afro Blue to perform with her at the Lincoln Theatre.

"It's great when we have artists come perform with us, but when they hire us to go and perform with them, that's just a whole different level," Miller adds. Last year they also performed at a White House Christmas party. This year Afro Blue released its fourth CD, *Jubilee*, and the group will soon be working on a Christmas CD.



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Miller discovered how far Afro Blue's reach really was when she served as an adjudicator at the Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival. The winner came from South Africa and after the competition was over, he approached Miller and said he wanted to meet her because he is a big fan of Afro Blue. "He said, 'In South Africa I sang in a vocal jazz ensemble, and we modeled ourselves after you guys,"" Miller recalls.

A Bright Future

For students who come out of the Department of Music, the sky is the limit.

"They know what it's like to walk on stage and be in a huge auditorium where you've got thousands of people sitting out there," Miller says.

They have also been exposed to different musical styles, from jazz to classical to gospel. "As a professional musician, you have to be able to perform for anybody and know how to adapt to any situation," Miller says.

While it is common knowledge that Grammy-winning singers Donny





Under the leadership of professors like Fred Irby III and Connaitre Miller, Howard's music program continues to thrive.

classical singer Jessye Norman (Mus.B. '67); Michael Bearden (B.Mus.Ed. '86), music

director for Lady Gaga and the former music director for Michael Jackson and Madonna; Charlie Young (Mus.M. '93), music director for the Smithsonian Jazz Master Works Orchestra; Carroll Vaughn Dashiell Jr. (Mus.B. '88), director of jazz studies at East Carolina University; Paul Carr, executive director of the Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival and the Maryland Academy of Jazz; Langston Fitzgerald III (B.Mus.Ed. '66), former trumpeter with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and a current professor of trumpet at Penn State University; and Gary Thomas, director of jazz studies at Johns Hopkins Peabody Conservatory.

With so much accomplished in the first 100 years, Kamalidiin knows that the Department of Music can continue to be a musical pioneer with the support of the Howard community.

"Many people refer to the Division of Fine Arts as the heart of the University," Kamalidiin says. "If the Division of Fine Arts is the heart, then music is the University's soul." **■**IU

Holmes is a writer based in Maryland.



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Climbing the Charts

Two new artists emerge, each with a unique brand of music.

The Soulful Nerd

By Jean-Louis Ntang Beb

When you hear Kenny Wesley's tenor for the first time, you are immediately drawn into a funky musical realm. Going by the stage name The Soulful Nerd, Wesley (B.A. '04; M.A. '11) defines his style as "collard greens, corn bread and a bottle of Perrier."

He says he gets his soulful side from his native North Carolina, where, he says, "they love their greens."

"The Perrier is the extra, the sophistication, the Frank Sinatra and everything else that I like," he says.

One of the breakthrough moments of Wesley's career came in 2012 when his music was featured on the prime-time show So You Think You Can Dance. That was followed up on the show last May with the debut of his single "Damaged Goods," which helped his music extend his reach. It didn't stop there. The show The View also featured another single on one of its episodes. "There's nothing that can compare to listening to your song on the radio or TV," Wesley says.

Wesley says he chose the name Soulful Nerd because it was the only succinct way to describe himself to anybody who didn't know him. He believes that Soulful Nerd demonstrates that there is more than one dimension to any artist.

Wesley has been singing since he can remember, but his passion for music developed under the guidance of Mary Brown, an early mentor who encouraged him to learn new languages and start with piano lessons. The piano lessons inspired Wesley to start playing for the youth choir, where he earned his stripes before joining Brown's music troupe. "She literally thrust me into music," Wesley says.

Brown also introduced Wesley to the idea of pursuing higher education when she took him and other students from his church to a college campus. It was the first time, he says, that he was surrounded by Black scholars. After the visit, Wesley's minister also got involved and motivated him to pursue higher education. When he was in the sixth grade, his minister even gave him a Howard University application. Excited by the possibilities, Wesley created a fake Howard diploma and hung it on the wall in his room as a motivational piece.

"I remember it had everything, even Latin inscription," laughs Wesley, who graduated with a degree in Spanish and a minor in chemistry. "I carried it throughout my Howard career."

After he graduated, he became a fulltime Spanish lecturer at Howard, where he draws similarities between a classroom full of students and a venue full of fans. "Being a teacher is a lot like being a performer," he says.

With students, Wesley says he has to keep the classroom environment fun and engaging while he delivers his lessons. Much like a performance, the classroom



is a training ground where he masters the art of delivery.

"Delivering that message properly while maintaining the engagement level is something that definitely transfers back to performing on a stage in front of people," he says. "Music is one of the reasons why I'm on planet Earth."

Ntang Beb is a former graduate assistant in the Office of University Communications and a doctoral candidate in the School of Communications.



A Little Bit of Country; A Little Bit of Law

By Brittany Jett (B.A. '13)

Shai Littlejohn (B.A. '96; J.D. '99) always envisioned herself following in her father's footsteps and being a lawyer, and so she did. But she also envisioned a second career singing, so she did that, too.

Today she is making a mark in Nashville. Inspired by country artists such as Shania Twain and Dolly Parton, she released her EP, Shai Littlejohn, last July and will release her second album this summer. While it's rare to find African Americans topping the country music charts, Littlejohn is filling up venues in Nashville, where she performs two to three acoustic shows a month, with a contemporary style that mixes classic country with pop and rock. Last year, she opened for singer Will Downing and competed in an opening-act selection showcase for singer Martina McBride. (She and her band will perform in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia this summer.)

"You really have to love country music as an artist, because your audience can tell when it's not authentic. You also have to be unique and put your own twist on it to be successful," she says.

As a completely independent artist, Littlejohn does everything herself including producing her music and booking herself for interviews and performances—while she retains complete control over what she records, performs and distributes. "Being a businessperson is just as important as being a creator," she says.

Although Littlejohn moved to Nashville to pursue her music, she still has a part-time law practice in D.C., allowing her to pursue both careers. She will soon release an iBook download called *Quit the Firm*, *Join a Band*, which is intended to inspire audiences to "find the courage to quit what they hate and pursue the life they want."

"In your passion you have to be bold, brave and consistent. You can't do it because you want to be popular," Littlejohn says. "I'm making country music because I can and I want to." HU

Iett is a writer based in Illinois.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF BRIAN T. SILAK

Where Are They Now.

They honed their musical skills at Howard, and traveled the road to a successful career, winning awards and gaining acclaim along the way. So where are they now?

Roberta Flack

(B.Mus.Ed. '58)

owned the airwaves in the 1970s. There were few R&B and pop radio stations during that decade that weren't playing one of her soulful and jazzy melodies. She was the first artist to win a Grammy Award for Record of the Year two consecutive times ("The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face" in 1973 and "Killing Me Softly With His Song" in 1974), while duets with her former Howard classmate Donny Hathaway—"Where is the Love," "The Closer I Get to You," "You Are My Heaven" and "Back Together Again"—are legendary. She continued her hit making well into the 1980s, with "Making Love" and a duet with Peabo Bryson, "Tonight I Celebrate My Love."

She credits Howard with helping to develop her golden musical pipes. "My time at Howard helped to shape who I am today as an artist," says Flack, 75, who received a music scholarship at age 15 to attend the University. "The professors and instructors helped me to open my mind and heart to the possibilities and opportunities in the world. I am forever grateful and proud to be an alumna."

Four Grammy Awards and one American Music Award later (and don't forget the star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame), Flack continues to perform around the world (in the United Kingdom in April and May of this year, and in Japan in December of last year). In 2012, she released *Let it Be Roberta*, a CD of Beatles tunes. She recently was a featured guest on a Japanese album project (Ken Hirai), and in between performing is considering new collaborations.

"I'm working with some very talented young musicians in my project, The Real Artist's Symposium," she says. "And an exciting discovery of a large collection of live concert recordings, not heard for over 30-plus years, in my archives has had me working with my management to release these great songs that span my career."

—Raven Padgett [□]

Eric Roberson

(B.F.A. '97)

has soared to great heights with two Grammy nominations and countless other accolades, including a 2009 Soul Train Award nomination. Yet he still reminisces about the moments he spent at his *alma mater*, where he matured not only as an artist, but also as an individual.

"I remember sitting on the front steps of the Fine Arts building with other musicians or sitting at the guitar with friends. You know, just talking, enjoying the beautiful weather and seeing the amazing people walking by."

Roberson came to Howard on scholarship from Rahway, N.J., majoring in musical theater. He was enchanted by Howard's musical legacy and remembers picking the brain of an English professor who taught Roberta Flack and Donny Hathaway. Being a true music lover, Roberson always seemed to find himself in the studio with friends from Howard, including the late Raymond "Scotty Beats" Brown II, when he was not doing a play.

"A lot of us used to record at a studio called Night Flight. We would work the midnight shifts so we could do sessions at two o'clock in the morning when nobody was using it. I still get my records mixed at Night Flight [to] this day," Roberson says.

When Roberson was a sophomore, he was offered a record deal from Warner Bros. His 1994 single "The Moon" was successful, but according to Roberson it "dried out" quickly. After taking a yearlong break from college, he found himself back in the arms of Howard University.

"I think a lot of what people see today is more of that artist that returned to Howard," Roberson says. "I feel like I became a man at Howard. And the work ethic that you build on at Howard, whether it's doing right by your classmates and doing right by your teachers, it will help you down the road."

Through the years, Roberson has experienced much success in the music industry, even starting his own label, Blue Erro Soul, in 2001. His unique neo-soul sound has garnered a large fan base and much acclaim. Yet his admiration for his *alma mater* is apparent and as fresh as it was before he even became a Bison.

"When you graduate, you'll see how many people from Howard are strong movers and shakers in the music business. It's really amazing," he says.

Roberson's upcoming album, *Musical Monologues*, is slated to be released later this year.

-Megan Sims



"The work ethic that you build on at Howard ... will help you down the road."



Harold Wheeler

(Mus.B. '64)

started as a piano major at Howard before moving to New York City for graduate school. While in New York, he auditioned for composers Burt Bacharach and Hal David, who loved his performance. At 25, he became the youngest and the first Black conductor for a Broadway musical (*Promises*, *Promises*). Since then, he has

been nominated six times for a Tony Award and won the Drama Desk Award for *Hairspray* for Best Orchestrations.

Wheeler is most recently known for his work on *Dancing with the Stars*, where he just completed 17 seasons as the show's musical director. He is currently working on the revival of the Broadway show *Side*

Show. Wheeler plans to bring the show on the road, starting in Washington, D.C., through the summer of 2014 before heading back to Broadway. Wheeler, 70, has enjoyed a career that has thrived over five decades and says, "I'll be around as long as the industry needs me."

—Jean-Louis Ntang Beb

"I'll be around as long as the industry needs me."



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"Howard helped shape my career. It gave me a broader outlook on life and how I would fit into things."

Benny Golson

carries with him the same fervor that brought the renowned composer, arranger, lyricist, producer and tenor saxophonist from Philadelphia to Howard as a music education major.

When Golson arrived in the fall of 1947, he recalls there were no jazz music classes, so he and his fellow classmates began to play together for no credit in the school jazz band. He also performed with the Howard Swing Masters and wrote music with them.

"We used to play at the old arts building whenever we had to play on campus, which was usually at night and on weekends," he says. Golson left Howard after three years to pursue his passion and received his first opportunity in 1951 with the R&B group Bullmoose Jackson and His Buffalo Bearcats.

"I was anxious to get started in my career," Golson says.

Since his first big break, he has played with Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman and Lionel Hampton, among other prominent musicians.

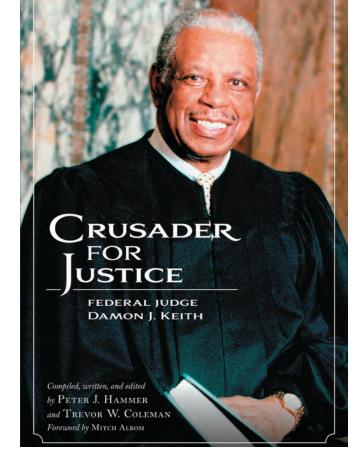
"I knew about all those bands long before I played with them. And I never knew that I would be good enough to be playing with the likes of those guys. So each one of those bands I joined was like an adventure, a dream being fulfilled," he says.

Golson has also composed music for musicians like Count Basie, Miles Davis and Ella Fitzgerald, and recorded scores for television shows like *M*A*S*H* and the Academy Awards and the movie *Mission Impossible*. Yet with all of his success, he has never forgotten about his time at Howard and how it helped contribute to his success. During this year's Commencement ceremony, he returned to his *alma mater* to receive an honorary doctorate degree in the arts.

"Howard helped shape my career. It gave me a broader outlook on life and how I would fit into things," says Golson, who continues to tour and compose both jazz and classical pieces. "Sometimes we think we know more than we do. But I have found that the greatest hindrance to knowledge is thinking you already have it."

—Megan Sims





try, in the sense that now with respect to public accommodations, employment and education, people of color, specifically African Americans, could be a part of all of those areas without an obvious caste imposed on them," said Okianer Christian Dark, J.D., interim dean of Howard's School of Law.

Over the years, Congress strengthened the Civil Rights Act, whose 50th anniversary President Barack Obama marked with a tribute to his predecessor Lyndon Johnson for signing the law in July 1964. But the country has grown more complex in that period, and Congress and the courts have failed to keep civil rights protections up with the times.

That failure is most evident when it comes to employment—for most people the foundation of the promise of a good life. The guarantee of equal employment opportunity contained in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act has done its job, but only to a certain extent.

"The act has been very, very successful in terms of eradicating intentional and overt discriminatory practices that keep out certain folks from employment," says Aderson B. Francois, J.D., associate professor at the School of Law.

© "Discrimination that has grown to be dess overt, less explicit, less intentional"



than existed in 1964 nonetheless remains fairly significant," adds Francois, who teaches civil rights courses. "African Americans in particular, but to some extent women, have a great deal of difficulty rising

up the ranks. In some ways, the act really wasn't designed to address that problem, but can be made to address this problem. The main challenges that remain essentially center around Title VII."

Damon J. Keith (B.L. '49), senior judge of the Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals based in Cincinnati, came of age before the Civil Rights Act. His trials with segregation and his ultimate triumph over them are chronicled in *Crusader for Justice*, a 2013 biography by Trevor W. Coleman and Peter J. Hammer.

During World War II, Keith was drafted into a segregated Army, entering as a private. His White commanders never nominated the college graduate for Officer Candidate School, which was integrated.

Keith's experience, though, motivated him to go to Howard's law school to attack the bald-faced discrimination that persisted in private employment until 1964. Keith said he was "ready to change the world" after graduation. Yet despite his degrees, qualifications and military service, the only job he was offered was as a janitor at the *Detroit News*. "The act ensured that generations of people had more fair opportunities," he says. "It has been one of our best instruments to fight discrimination and create a society that we all deserve to live in."

The Congress that passed the Civil Rights Act reflected the racial hierarchy of the time. There were only five Black members, all in the House of Representatives. Passage relied on the skillful maneuvering of Johnson and his bipartisan allies to overcome a filibuster by southern Democrats in the Senate.

Outside pressure from the civil rights movement helped get the bill passed. Before his assassination, President John F. Kennedy was forced to push his original bill through because of the Freedom Rides through the segregated South in 1961 and the marches in Birmingham, Ala., in 1963.

James Forman (B.D. '41) helped organize the Freedom Rides, while Martin Luther King Jr. led the Birmingham campaign. Howard students joined the Freedom Rides, including Stokely Carmichael (B.A. '64). Carmichael also joined other Howard students in a 1960 campaign to desegregate restaurants along U.S. Route 40 between D.C. and Baltimore. And Andrew Young (B.S. '51) served as executive director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, becoming one of the civil rights movement's central figures.

"Through the Civil Rights Act, we actually began to look like the America that we had been talking about to everybody else in the world," Dark says. "We are a changed nation because of this legislation."

But Dark echoes Francois on the need to update the 50-year-old law.

"I also think the country should understand that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was a beginning," Dark says. "We haven't yet dealt with the subtle forms of discrimination. I wouldn't want people to think the job is done. The work is not done." HU

Cooper is a Pulitzer Prize—winning writer based in Boston.

Profiles

in Leadership



By Brittany Hutson (B.A. '09)

Some people discover their passion early in life; others take years of twists and turns before they find their niche. Carla Hall (B.B.A. '86) didn't set out to become a beloved television chef, but throughout her journey, one thing remained constant: "All of my life, my grandmother told me that you should be happy in whatever you do, and so for me, it was my job to be happy."

Today, Hall co-hosts ABC's daytime series *The Chew* and is the owner of Carla Hall Petite Cookies, an artisan cookie company based in Silver Spring, Md. She's best known for being a competitor on Bravo's reality competition show *Top Chef.* Yet long before she broke into the culinary and television worlds, she dreamed of pursuing theater.

Growing up in Nashville, Tenn., Hall

attended the Nashville Academy Theater from the ages of 12 to 17 and intended to major in theater in college. But after auditioning for Boston University's theater arts program and learning that her admission would be deferred, Hall decided to follow her sister, Kimberly Hall, to Howard University.

At Howard, she majored in accounting, a decision she says she didn't put much thought into. "I liked my accounting teacher in high school," she says frankly. "I could have shut my eyes and pointed to a picture ... that's how I chose accounting."

Still, Hall was adamant about being a stellar student.

"I could not handle not having good grades. I wasn't one to hang out on the Yard unless I had already done my work," she says.

But she wasn't so immersed in her studies that she didn't recognize the activism on campus. One of her fondest memories was participating in the infamous student sit-ins at the administration building. "My parents were at the 1960 Walgreens sit-in in Nashville, and here I was at a sit-in at the historical Howard University," Hall recalls.

She also recalls when the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. came to campus while campaigning for president of the United States. "There were so many people who came to Howard that you just felt like you were at the pulse of something great happening."

After graduating, Hall moved to Tampa, Fla., to work as a CPA for Price Waterhouse. Within two years, she realized accounting was not for her. "My biggest fear was being 40 and hating my job," she says.

While in Tampa, Hall was approached about modeling. She had some experience from doing fashion shows during her senior year at Howard, so she quit her job and headed for the runways of Paris, Milan and London. She fell in love with food while in Paris.



Hall held a signing on the main campus for her new book, Carla's Comfort Foods.

"Going to Howard University and coming from a family with very strong, positive role models helped prepare me for this experience and knowing who I am and loving myself and loving my culture."

Reminiscent of the Sunday dinners she grew up with at her grandmother's house, in Paris the models would have brunch on Sundays and everyone would contribute a dish, except Hall. "I loved to eat, but I was never in the kitchen."

However, she was fascinated by the socialization that occurred there. "People would talk about 'oh, my mother does this' and 'oh, my mother does that," she recalls, which led her to begin teaching herself about food and cooking.

After two and a half years in Europe, she returned to Washington, D.C., and started a lunch delivery service. She went on to culinary school at L'Academie de Cuisine in Gaithersburg, Md., worked as a chef in several high-end hotels in downtown D.C., then started her own catering company. In 2008, the call from Top Chef came. Two years later, Hall was invited back for Top Chef All-Stars, during which she became a fan favorite. In 2011, Hall received an offer to join The

Hall admits that as a local entrepreneur, being on television did not come without its share of challenges.

"Everyone knows about you, and I had a very small staff, so there was that challenge of executing so many events and bringing on more people," she says.

But, she says, "Going to Howard University and coming from a family with very strong, positive role models helped prepare me for this experience and knowing who I am and loving myself and loving my culture."

Hall notes that being in the public eye has also stressed to her the importance of giving back. She works with a number of nonprofits, including GENYouth, which inspires and educates youth to improve their nutrition and increase physical activity. "If we want our schools to compete and be run efficiently and effectively, we need to give back so that we have a choice in how they are run," she says. HU

Hutson is a writer based in Maryland.

Milestones

'60s

Cornell Moore, J.D. 1964, received the William and Kate Dunwoody 2013 Philanthropist Award from Dunwoody College of Technology. In 2007, the Cornell L. and Wenda Weekes Moore Multi-Cultural Center, which promotes the value of diversity and prepares students to be competitive in a global society and changing workforce, was named after him and his wife. Moore is a former Howard trustee.



Anthony Holder, B.S.C.E. 1971, was named to the *Tri-State Defender's* Men of Excellence Class of 2013, an honor given to men who have demonstrated excellence in their work and commitment despite their obstacles. Holder is a FedEx airline pilot and captain of a Boeing 777 jumbo jet.



Sandra Jowers-Barber, B.A. 1971; M.A. 2001; Ph.D. 2005, was one of the east coast

conference winners of the ECC Faculty Appreciation Award in recognition of her support of intercollegiate athletics and student athletes at the University of the District of Columbia.



Paulette Brown, B.A. 1973, was nominated as president-elect for 2014–15 for the American Bar

Association (ABA). If elected by the ABA House of Delegates in August, she will become, in 2015, the first woman of color and third African American to serve as ABA president. Brown is a partner specializing in labor and employment law, and labor commercial litigation at Edwards Wildman Palmer in New Jersey.

Florence Anthony, B.F.A. 1974,

wrote *Deadly Stuff Players*, a novel featuring a gossip columnist and a football hero turned private investigator trying to find a serial killer. Anthony is a radio host, blogger, reporter for the *New York Daily News*, and publisher and editor-in-chief of *Black Noir Magazine*.



Alexander Robbins, M.D. 1975, was named to the board of trustees at Tuskegee University. He is

an active member of the Howard University Medical Alumni Association.

Richard E. Grant, M.D. 1976, and Julius K. Oni, M.D. 2007, assumed the role of community ambassadors for Einstein Healthcare Network, where they work as orthopedic surgeons. As ambassadors, they encourage the community to tap into the orthopedic care available at Einstein.

G. Daniel Jones, D. Min. 1978, was recognized for his years of service as senior pastor of Grace Baptist Church of Germantown in Philadelphia with a street designated in his honor. The 6400 block of Emlen Street in Philadelphia is now Dr.

G. Daniel Jones Way. Jones retired in June after holding the position for 31 years.

'80s



Stanley Wilson, B.S. 1981, was named dean of the College of Healthcare Sciences at Nova Southeastern

University.

Jesse L. Butler, M.A. 1983, received the 2014 Keeper of the Dream Award presented by the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service committee in Summit, N.J. The award is given to recipients who are committed to fairness and racial harmony.

Eric Easter, B.A. 1983, was named chair of the National Black Programming Consortium. He was also elected to the board of the Public Media Platform, a joint project of PBS, NPR and other major public media organizations to place all public content into a single digital resource. He is the CEO of a new startup nonfiction streaming network, BLQBOX.

Mary Reid, B.S. 1983; M.S.W. 1985, was inducted into the Ohio Bar on Nov. 4, 2013. She works for the Cincinnati Hamilton County Community Action Agency as a principal for its Head Start centers.

Jay Wooster, D.D.S. 1984, opened a new dental practice, Wooster Dental Care, in Okatie, S.C.

Gregory Hall, M.A. 1986; Ph.D. 1993, published *Authority, Ascendancy and Supremacy: China, Russia and the United States' Pursuit of Relevancy and Power*, which examines the American, Chinese

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and Russian competition for power and influence during the post-Cold War era. Hall is the director of the international studies program at Morehouse College.

Darryl A. Pope, B.A. 1986, was appointed the new athletics director at Lincoln University.



Janice Susan Wallace, B.A. 1987, is the editor-in-chief of *Façon Magazine*, an online publication

devoted to supporting emerging fashion around the world and discovering new creative talent, including designers based in Maryland and D.C. A former senior staffer on Capitol Hill, Wallace also works as the creative director at a boutique agency that specializes in editorial styling, fashion media, creative services and brand development/management for fashion businesses.



Helen Diane Foster, B.A. 1989, was appointed by New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo to serve as

commissioner for the state division of human rights. She was formerly a representative for the 16th district on the New York City Council. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

'90s

Alicia M. Crowe, J.D. 1990, and Alice T. Crowe, J.D. 1992, will be featured in the exhibition "African American Entrepreneurs in Nyack 1800s–Present," in Nyack, N.Y., which includes local Black figures who contributed to the area's economy.

Teresa Sidewater, B.S. 1990; M.S.W. 1992, was named editor of the *District Two Resolution*, a newsletter for the National Association of Parliamentarians.



Michael Nation, B.B.A. 1992, was named vice president and chief information officer of Bacardi USA. Prior to this

appointment, Nation served as director of corporate systems with Coca-Cola in Atlanta.



Dakota Ramseur, B.A. 1992, was elected a civil court judge for New York City in the past November

election. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

John L. Jackson Jr., B.A. 1993,

was named dean of the School of Social Policy and Practice at the University of Pennsylvania. He was previously the Richard Perry University Professor and the senior advisor for diversity in the Office of the Provost at U. Penn.



Awanya Anglin-Brodie, B.A. 1997, was selected by *Radio Ink Magazine* as one of the industry's 30

"Rising Stars in Radio" under the age of 40. Anglin-Brodie is the special events manager for CBS Media in Washington, D.C.

Rahime-Malik Howard, B.S. 1997,

was named a department coordinator and full-time professor of sociology at El Centro College in Dallas. He is also an associate professor of sociology at Collin College in Plano, Texas.

Darius M. Billings, B.B.A. 1998,

married Ashley M. Baker on Nov. 9, 2013, in Philadelphia and they honeymooned in Switzerland. He works as a director in marketing and merchandising for a major athletic retail company.

DeSean Grayson, B.A. 1998; M.A. 2012, was named to the *Tri-State Defender's* Men of Excellence Class of 2013, an honor given to men who have demonstrated excellence in their work and commitment despite their obstacles. Grayson is a general sales manager for Soul Classics 103.5 in Memphis and political sales director of Cumulus Media-Memphis.

Sonya Armfield, J.D. 1999, was appointed diversity fellow of the American Bar Association Solo, Small Firm and General Practice division, in the 2014 bar year. In addition to the fellowship, Armfield was appointed to the Military Lawyers and Taxation committees and the Book Publications board.



Jonathan W. Hutto Sr., B.A. 1999, received the Fannie Lou Hamer Award by the National Conference of

Black Political Scientists for his continued leadership and service to the community. This was his second time receiving this award.

Adrienne Lofton, B.B.A. 1999, was named chief marketing officer for Dockers, where she spearheads brand strategy and global marketing.

Milestones

Erika McConduit-Diggs, B.A. 1999,

was named president and CEO of the Urban League of Greater New Orleans after serving as interim president for nearly a year. She is only the second woman to hold the position in the chapter's history.

Marion Woodfork Simmons,

M.B.A. 1999, received the 2012 Caroline Historical Society Award for her tremendous efforts to research, document, promote and preserve the history of Caroline County, Va.



Crystal McIntosh, B.S. 2000;

D.D.S. 2006, was named an American Dental Education Association (ADEA)/
Colgate-Palmolive Co./National Dental Association Jeanne C. Sinkford Scholar in the ADEA Leadership Institute. The ADEA Leadership Institute is a yearlong program designed to develop the nation's most promising individuals at academic dental institutions to become future leaders in dental and higher education. McIntosh is an assistant professor in the periodontics department in the College of Dentistry.

Damien Sneed, Mus.B. 2000.

received the 2014 Medal of Excellence by the Sphinx Foundation. This award is given every year to three outstand-



ing artists of color who demonstrate artistic excellence, outstanding work ethic, a spirit of determination and great potential for leadership. Sneed was honored at the Sphinx Medals of Excellence luncheon in Washington, D.C., where he received a \$50,000 artist scholarship to further his professional pursuits.

Anu A. Esuola, D.D.S. 2001, was appointed to the Maryland Governor's Commission on African Affairs in May 2013. She is the founder of Community Dentistry on Wheels.

Cleve Mesidor, M.A. 2001, joined the public relations firm Raben Group as a global solutions consultant. He will manage an international portfolio targeting emerging markets with a focus on Haiti and the Caribbean. He will also leverage innovation and competitive strategies to tackle complex economic challenges.

Marc Battle, J.D. 2002, was appointed vice president, Pepco region, for Washington, D.C. Battle previously was the associate general counsel for Pepco Holdings Inc., where he represented Pepco before the Public Service Commission of D.C. in a wide variety of matters, including general rate proceedings.

Alex Dixon, B.B.A. 2003, was named to *Baltimore Business Journal*'s "40 Under 40" list. Dixon is the assistant general manager at Horseshoe Casino in Baltimore.

Lloyd Freeman, B.B.A. 2004, was

honored with the Alfredo Santiago Endowed Scholarship for his efforts to help students achieve. This scholarship provides financial assistance to graduates of the LEAP Academy University Charter School in Camden, N.J., who are enrolled full time at one of Rutgers University's three campuses. Freeman is an attorney at Archer & Greiner P.C.



Canute A. Knott-Malcolm, B.A. 2004, founded C.A. Knott-Malcolm and Associates LLC, a strategic

management and consulting firm in New York City. Knott-Malcolm will serve as the CEO and principal consultant of the organization.



Juliet M.
Beverly, B.A.
2006, was named
BrainFacts.org
web editor at the
Society for
Neuroscience in

Washington, D.C. She previously was an assistant editor for *bridges*, an online magazine on transatlantic science, technology and innovation policy, published by the Office of Science and Technology at the Embassy of Austria.

Antionette Claranette Wilson, D.D.S. 2006, married Kenneth Jervon Banks on Nov. 30, 2013, in Baltimore and honeymooned in Montego Bay, Jamaica. She works as a pediatric dentist.



Gwendolyn Boyd, M.Div. 2007, was named president of Alabama State University, becoming the

institution's first female president. An engineer, Boyd spent 33 years at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory. She most recently served as executive assistant chief at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory and was the chair of Johns Hopkins' university-wide Diversity Leadership Council, a post she had held since 2001.

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Milestones

A lumni

Paul Monteiro, J.D. 2007, was named director of AmeriCorps VISTA, one of the nation's oldest anti-poverty programs. Monteiro previously served in the Office of Public Engagement at the White House.

Kathryn H. Epps, B.B.A. 2008,

married Gordon K. Roberson on Sept. 7, 2013, in Philadelphia and honeymooned in Hawaii. She oversees a financial service practice with Northwestern Mutual and owns Eventchic LLC, an event management company.



Michael Benjamin, B.A. 2009, won a Sports Emmy for his work as an associate producer with

NBC Olympics. In London, he assisted in the production coordination prior to the Olympic Games and gave creative direction on graphic implementation.



Leigh Chapman, J.D. 2009, recently completed a civil rights trial in federal court where she served

as co-counsel on behalf of the plaintiffs—which included community groups, labor unions and a church—who are seeking to defend the voting rights of citizens impacted by Wisconsin's voter ID requirement.

$^{\prime} \mathrm{IO}_{\mathrm{S}}$



Chris Bridges, B.A. 2010, proposed to his fiancée, lvy Brown, B.A. 2010, on the Steve Harvey Show in February 2014 during the show's "Proposal Week." Bridges surprised his bride-to-be during the "Ask Steve" segment of the show.

Alexandra Whittaker, J.D. 2010, was appointed assistant legal advisor to the U.S. Mission at the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. She will represent the U.S. in international trade litigation and during international trade negotiations.

Antoine Bethea, B.A. 2011, was named Colts Man of the Year for his commitment to community service and his leadership on and off the football field. Bethea established the Safe Coverage Foundation and each year, he sponsors the Elite High School Exposure Camp, which prepares student athletes for the transition to the collegiate level. Bethea is currently playing with the San Francisco 49ers.



Brenda
Duverce, B.A.
2013, received
the 2014 Charles
B. Rangel
International
Affairs Fellow-

ship. As part of the program she will work for a member of Congress on issues related to foreign policy. In the summer of 2015, the U.S. Department of State will send her overseas to work in a U.S. embassy to get hands-on experience with U.S. foreign policy and the work of the Foreign Service. Duverce is completing a Fulbright research project in Botswana.



Marquis D. Gibson, B.A. 2013, recently performed in *The Piano Lesson*, his professional theater debut,

at Cape Fear Regional Theatre in Fayetteville, N.C.

Flashback



The *Hilltop* newspaper turns 90 this year! Pictured is the 1955 staff of the student-run newspaper, which was co-founded by the Harlem Renaissance writer Zora Neale Hurston.

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In Memoriam

Alumn

'30s

Idella M. Ford, Dip.N. 1934, died Jan. 23, 2014. Ford worked as a staff nurse in Uniontown, Pa., before enlisting in the Army's Nursing Corps during World War II. A first lieutenant, she was the first Black psychiatric nurse in Bushnell General Hospital in Brigham City, Utah. Ford went on to work with the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the veterans hospital in Tuskegee, Ala., and Freedmen's Hospital in Washington, D.C., where she worked for 23 years as a specialist in internal medicine. In 2004, she was honored during the National WWII Memorial dedication ceremony. Ford was the founder and president of Freedmen's Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association and was instrumental in the funding of the Howard University Retirement Organization. She was 103 years old.

40s

Charlotte Schuster Price, B.A.

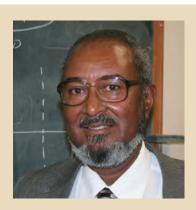
1948, died Dec. 22, 2013. In the 1940s, Price belonged to the organization Consolidated Parents, which fought for school desegregation in Washington, D.C. As a member of the League of Women Voters, she fought for voting rights for D.C. residents. She was very active in the Americans for Democratic Action and served as vice president of the Washington chapter. After moving to Plymouth, Mass., she launched a new career as an archivist at Pilgrim Hall, the area's historical society, where she was curator of books and manuscripts for 12 years. Her research on Cape Cod led to the publication of three guidebooks. In addition, she provided archival assistance to the Mashpee Wampanoag Native American tribe. She was 101 years old.

Gloria E. Carter, B.S. 1949; M.S.W 1951, died Aug. 23, 2013. Carter worked at Belleview hospital in New York, was director of social services for Muhlenberg RMC and supervisor of case management at the United Family and Children's Society in Plainfield, N.J. She was a member of Links, Delta Sigma Theta sorority and the Plainfield branch of American University Women. She was married to Herman Carter, M.S.W. 1950, for 63 years.

Joseph M. Jenkins, B.S. 1949, died July 28, 2013. Jenkins began his career in the Baltimore City Public School System, where he was a teacher and a mentor. He also taught special courses at the Community College of Baltimore, Coppin State University and Morgan State University. He received several National Science Foundation grants from Morgan State University and Virginia State University. After retiring, he became active with the Howard University Alumni Club of Baltimore. He was a member of several organizations, including Phi Beta Sigma Inc., Phi Delta Kappa and the NAACP. He was 87 years old.

'50s

Herman Carter, M.S.W. 1950, died Jan. 15, 2014. Carter was the director of social services at the University Hospital in Newark, N.J., and Greystone Psychiatric Hospital in Morris Plains, N.J. He served on several boards, including Planned Parenthood and the Union County Psychiatric Clinic. He was married to Gloria E. Carter, B.S. 1949; M.S.W. 1951, for 63 years.



Rackham H. Goodlett, a long-time professor at Howard, died Dec. 17, 2013, at the age of 71. Goodlett was a professor in the Department of Math and assistant director of the University's Center for Academic Reinforcement. For more than 30 years, he inspired countless students through his passion for teaching and learning.

A scholarship fund has been established in his name and will be awarded to a rising junior with the highest GPA improvement from the freshman to sophomore year. Contributions to the Rackham Goodlett Scholarship Fund can be sent to the Division of Development and Alumni Relations, 2225 Georgia Ave., NW, Suite 901, Washington, DC 20059.

Carl C. McCraven, B.S.E.E. 1950,

died Sept. 5, 2012. McCraven was the founder of Pacoima Memorial Lutheran Hospital and Hillview Mental Health Center Inc. in Pacoima, Calif. He also served as president of the boards of both agencies and as CEO of Hillview. As a community activist, he served on other boards dealing with health, mental health and youth welfare. He also served as president of the San Fernando Valley branch of the NAACP and on the NAACP's national board of directors.

In Memoriam

Alumni

Coletta Warren-Pilz, Mus.B. 1950,

died June 18, 2013. After graduating from Howard, Warren-Pilz won a scholarship to Juilliard School in New York, where she received the Marian Anderson Award. She also was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to study at the Academy for Music and Performing Arts in Vienna,

Austria. She worked as a guide for the United Nations and modeled for *Ebony*, *Jet*, *Tan* and other national magazines. She was named Miss United States in the nation's first interracial beauty contest. During her professional career as an opera singer, she toured the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada and represented

Wendell G. Freeland, B.A. 1947, a highly respected defense attorney, civil rights pioneer and member of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen, died Jan. 24, 2014, at the age of 88.

Freeland was attending Howard when he joined the Airmen, and served as a lieutenant with the 477th Bombardment Group during World War II. In 1945, Freeland's unit was transferred to Freeman Field, Ind., where he and other soldiers were arrested after trying to integrate an



all-White officer's club. Freeland and his comrades were charged with mutiny and, although the charges were eventually dropped, the resistance became known as the Freeman Field Mutiny and helped set the stage for the sit-ins during the civil rights movement.

Just 20 years old at the time, Freeland said his time at Howard had already colored his notion of when to stand up and when to speak up.

"I don't know if it was the courage of youth, but I was definitely buttressed by my experience at Howard," he told *Howard Magazine* in a 2012 interview. "We considered ourselves the best and brightest, so we were going to act that way in life."

After the war ended, he returned to Howard to complete his studies, graduating *cum laude*. He earned his law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law, becoming one of its first African-American graduates.

Over the years, he built a career on helping clients whose voices were often ignored or misunderstood. In the early 1950s, he successfully sued the city of Pittsburgh to desegregate the swimming pool at the city's main municipal park and fought to integrate the city's public schools. Most recently, he petitioned the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to overturn the ruling on George Vashon, the first African American to graduate from Oberlin College and the first Black professor at Howard University, whose application for the Pennsylvania bar was rejected in 1847 and 1868. In 2010, the court posthumously admitted Vashon to the bar.

Freeland also served as senior vice president of the National Urban League and president of the Pittsburgh chapter of the Urban League.

-Raven Padgett

the United Nations in a concert tour of Egypt and the Gaza Strip. She was engaged by several Austrian and German opera houses as leading coloratura soprano, also appearing in Italy, Hungary, Switzerland and France.

Hayden B. Williams, B.S. 1952; M.S. 1954; D.D.S. 1958, died Sept. 12, 2012. Williams served on a troop transport ship during World War II. After graduating from Howard, he spent a year at Harlem Hospital in New York City on an oral surgery internship. He then served as a dental officer in D.C. for 20 years while maintaining a private practice there for more than 40 years.

He was 86 years old.

Carrous Frederick Robinson, B.A. **1953; B.L. 1956**, died June 18, 2011. Robinson practiced law for more than 55 years at his practice in Flint, Mich. He fought against racism and inequality through his work and the creation of several organizations, including the Urban Coalition of Flint and the Community Civic League. As a civil rights activist, he was instrumental in the 1968 Fair Housing Ordinance, initiating the complaint that led to the elimination of separate screening for teachers based on race, and he drafted the proposed ordinance to establish the Flint Human Relations Commission. He was a member of several organizations, including the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and the NAACP. He was honored by the National Bar Association Hall of Fame and received a Flint Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Woman's Club Inc.'s 2011 Frederick Douglass Award. He was 79 years old.

Lewis W. Marshall Sr., B.S. 1955; M.D. 1959, died Jan. 23, 2014. Marshall served in the Air Force Reserve, from 1963–65. In 1976, Marshall opened an internal medicine and infectious diseases practice at Providence Hos-

JTOGRAPH COURTESY OF SIDNEY L. DAVIS/ PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REV

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pital. He served as the hospital's chief of infectious diseases for the department of internal medicine and general practice for 38 years and served as the chairman of the infection control committee of the medical-dental staff for 21 years. He was co-director of the Medicine for Peace Health Center and made volunteer trips with the humanitarian organization to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq and Haiti. He was a founding member and past president of the Jazz Listening Group in Washington. He was 79 years old.

Leon M. West, B.A. 1956; M.A. 1972, died Jan. 29, 2014. West retired from the Congress of National Black Churches and had also been employed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police as director of special services. He was a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. He was 79 years old.

Ray G. Clark, B.S.E.E. 1957, died Jan. 7, 2014. As a lawyer, Clark specialized in death penalty cases. He became well-known for his representation of Richard Ramirez in the infamous "Night Stalker" case. In 1991, the John M. Langston Bar Association named Clark the Criminal Defense Lawyer of the Year. Before becoming a lawyer, he worked on aviation and aerospace projects. He was 82 years old. Clark's widow, Barbara H. Clark (B.A. 1956), established the Ray G. Clark Engineering Scholarship Fund at Howard University. Contributions can be sent to the Division of Development and Alumni Relations, 2225 Georgia Ave., NW, Suite 901, Washington, DC 20059.

'60s

Lois Ellen Wilcox, D.H.Cer. 1965, died. Wilcox worked as a dental hygien-

ist in Beverly Hills, Calif., where she had prominent clients, including Elvis Presley. Wilcox also started an eclectic collection sales business. She was a member of Sigma Phi Alpha Dental Hygiene Honor Society. She was 89 years old.

Charles P. Hammock, B.L. 1966,

died Feb. 15, 2014. Hammock was a state representative for the 196th district from January 1973 to November 1976 and was a founding member of the Black Political Forum. During the '70s, he served as board chair for the National Office of Black Catholics and led a delegation to Rome in 1971 to meet Pope Paul at the Vatican to encourage the appointment of a Black bishop. He mentored high school students and promoted equality as a contributing writer for the Philadelphia Public Record newspaper. His last work as a historian, creative consultant and lead actor was his portrayal of Frederick Douglass for Philly Cam's TV program Conversations Across Time. He was 72 years old.

'70s

Audrey M. Scott, B.A. 1973, died Feb. 26, 2013. After graduating from the Columbus School of Law, she began her legal career with Memphis Area Legal Services. During her career, the longtime judge also worked for the local Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Social Security Administration Memphis Hearings Office. She was 65 years old.

Constance St. Clair Solan, B.A. 1975; M.A. 1980; Ph.D. 1984, died Oct. 17, 2013. Solan served as department chair for the economics department at Howard. She also worked as a fiscal analyst with the Maryland state

legislature and as a professor at Bowie State University. She was 78 years old.

Peggy Young May, D.D.S. 1975,

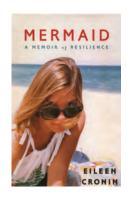
died Jan. 29, 2014. She joined the Swope Health Services Dental department in 1985, and soon after became the department chair, while practicing general dentistry. She was active in the Greater Kansas City Dental Society and served on several advisory committees for the Missouri Primary Care Association. She was 64 years old.

Pamela Hall, B.A. 1978, died Jan. 21, 2014. After graduation, she became music director at WBLS-FM, part of Inner City Broadcasting in New York City. When she returned to Baltimore, she worked at a cable TV station, as a legislative aide to Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (D-Md.) and as an independent record representative in the Mid-Atlantic region. Hall was named Black Radio's Music Director of the Year in 1992, and Billboard magazine nominated her as Music Director of the Year. In 1993, she became a music director and interim program director at Howard. She then briefly changed careers and became a registered representative at T. Rowe Price and Morgan Stanley. In 2000, she returned to music and was program director and onair personality for the jazz channel Riff at WorldSpace Satellite Radio Network in Washington, D.C. She also built the format for the WorldSpace Gospel Channel. In 2011, she became the program director for Morgan State University's

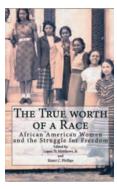
WEAA-FM. She was 57 years old.

Bison Bookshelf

Mermaid: A
Memoir of
Resilience (W.W.
Norton & Co.),
by Eileen Cronin
(Ph.D. '90), is a
poignant memoir chronicling
the author's life
growing up as one
of 11 children,
facing a multitude



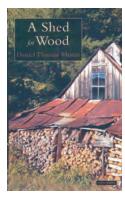
of challenges, including not having legs. Cronin shares her inspirational story of self-discovery and transformation with humor and grace.



The True Worth of a Race (Association of Black Women Historians), Eds. Lopez D. Matthews Jr. (Ph.D. '09) and Kenvi C. Phillips (M.A. '05; Ph.D. '10), celebrates African-American women in the

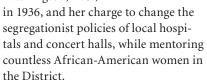
struggle for freedom. The book features essays on some well-known and lesser-known civil rights leaders.

A Shed for Wood (Salmon Poetry), by Daniel Thomas Moran (D.D.S. '83), is the author's seventh collection of poetry, in which he comes home again to Ireland. He describes his



poems as "a travelogue of oddly varied subjects and points of view."

Mary McLeod Bethune in Washington, D.C. (The History Press), by Ida E. Jones (B.A. '93; M.A. '95; Ph.D. '01), chronicles the civil rights activist's move to Washington, D.C.,





Ten Lessons My
Mother Taught Me
Before She Died
(CreateSpace), by
Faith Elle (Walls)
(M.Ed. '07), highlights 10 life lessons the author's
mother taught her,
and how she has
applied them to

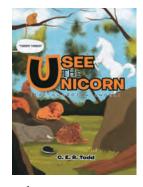
Mary McLeod

BETHUNE

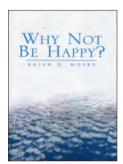
WASHINGTON, D.C

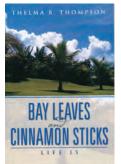
her own life since her mother's death in 2007.

U See the Unicorn (Xlibris), by Robert Todd (B.A. '60) and Elaine B. Todd (B.A. '65; M.A. '71; Ph.D. '87), is an adventurous children's book about a



mystical character who serves as a mentor to other animals in search of a beautiful paradise. Why Not Be
Happy? (Xlibris),
by Brian D.
Mosby (B.S.C.E.
'94), is a spiritual
guide on learning
to make choices
that produce joy in
one's life.

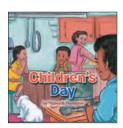




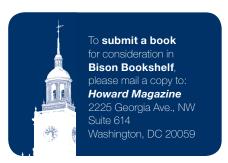
Bay Leaves and Cinnamon Sticks (Xlibris), by Thelma B. Thompson (B.A. '70; M.A. '72; Ph.D. '78), tells the story of a Jamaican woman who seeks a better life for herself and

her family by coming to America to work in people's homes. The author, former

president of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, also published *Children's Day* (Xlibris), which features a child who investi-



gates why children don't have an official day named after them.



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Department of Alumni Relations

Class of 2014!



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Upcoming Alumni Events

September 13th - AT&T Nation's Football Classic

October 17th - 19th - Homecoming Weekend



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