

Editor's Letter

That Old Playground Song



I had to have been about 7 when I first learned it.

You know, that old playground song: *"John and Kayla sittin' in a tree, K-I-S-S-I-N-G. First comes looove, then comes maaarriage, then comes the baby in the baaabyyy carriage."*

For educated Black women, though, this fairytale scenario that we used to sing about while playing hopscotch during recess is not always the case. The statistics say so—a number of them. A recent Brookings Institution article cited that about 80 percent of educated White women marry a well-educated man, versus about 50 percent of educated Black women. I wasn't at all surprised by these stats, but they did get my wheels turning.

While, in many cases, there is some truth to these statistics, we cannot dismiss the laundry list of factors that contribute to these numbers. But despite these stats, the laundry list and this overall idea, these numbers further heighten my awareness of the importance of celebrating often the fruitful unions that stand against these odds within the Black educated community. In this issue, We Are HU Family, we do just that.

We highlight and place on a pedestal about 100 couples who originally found love while studying at Howard University, went on to get married, may have welcomed the baby in the baby carriage, and later sent those babies to the Mecca. The young and seasoned couples featured not only beat the statistics, but their high profile professions and in-depth research across the globe are a testament to President Wayne A. I. Frederick's five priorities for his administration.

The 50 HU Love Snippets will reveal little-known fun facts about each couple's initial meeting, first date and reasons for choosing one another as spouses. And the faces that appear in Class Couples will bring back nostalgia for those school days we won't soon forget.

Black love is alive and well, both inside and outside the educated community. Let's allow these pages to be a constant reminder of that, and celebrate those who have found that love right here on the ripe grounds of Howard University.

RaNeeka Claxton Witty, Editor

CEASAR



Volume 25, Number 1

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Cover: The McKeithen family (first row from left: Faith Walton McKeithen, Bertram McKeithen Sr.; top row from left: Bertram McKeithen Jr., Piper McKeithen, Alison McKeithen) Photo: Justin D. Knight

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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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CEASAR

President's Perspective

The Right Place at the Right Time

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



With the end of the spring semester approaching, Howard University is still a great place to be. For me, this University is a four-letter word: home. It represents a melting pot—one that is fertile ground for building lifelong relationships. As diverse as our backgrounds may be, each of us bears in common three things: faith, hope and love. Despite the University's challenges, we are all invested in its success.

I am humbled by the ways in which the University touches people near and far. Recently, I met with a 101-year-old Jewish gentleman in Palm Springs, Calif. retired urologist Dr. David M. Falk—who designated in his will a \$1 million, evenly distributed gift to the Howard University School of Law, College of Nursing and College of Medicine for student scholarships. As a surveyor of hospitals, Dr. Falk spent only four hours at the University in the mid-1980s surveying the Howard University Hospital. Shortly thereafter, he and his wife, Elynor, agreed that they ought to put the University in their wills—especially after Elynor met two Black nurses, who despite being qualified, could not get jobs.

Here is a man who saw the Hilltop for only a matter

of hours, fell in love with it and insisted that he would contribute to it. Think about the amount of time we dwell on things that don't work—how quickly we lose sight of where we must go. During this time of discomfort, it is very easy for us to be despondent. But if we do not approach each other from a point of love and civility, all of our successes will be for naught. It is my hope that every graduate of Howard University will leave with love in their hearts for their fellow person—that same love that Dr. Falk met here when he came to campus in the 1980s.

Here at Howard University, we have a legacy of people who have gone before us and shown us the way. We are here to expand upon their examples and build a new legacy. While we have many challenges ahead, I remain convinced that this is the right place at the right time. I am thankful for this mountain. My relationship with Howard University is a romance and journey that will never end—my presidency an extension of that journey. I will always be with Howard University and Howard University will always be with us. **H**U

In Their Words

Bison Conversations

Bison Conversations is a place for you to share your voices. Here's how it works: We ask. You answer via email. We publish a handful of your submissions. We handpicked a few of your comments from the Fall 2015 issue, "Designing the Future," in which you were asked: *In what ways has your Howard University education prepared you to address disparities in society?*



"My Howard education prepared me to address disparities in society in two ways: 1) It sensitized me to a 'glocal' (global and local) perspective of poverty that made me take on community service as an obligation versus a 'noble thing to do'; and 2) it gave me the tools to help others transition from 'admiring the disparities' to doing impactful things to reduce the disparities, e.g., tutoring, mentoring."

—Aaron J. Ferguson, Ph.D. (B.S.E.E. '87), White Marsh, Md.

"My pen is the sword I use to address disparity. I feel that the love of Howard or the love that Howard University instills in us is our strongest weapon against disparity in the world! This is how Howard University has educated me." —Kathryn L. Harris (M.S. '80), Washington, D.C.



Here's a new question: How would you describe the bonds you've built during your study at Howard University?

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.



In Their Words





Payne: Prepare to care for aging relatives

As we grow and progress in our careers, we also age. In her column, Dr. Joan Payne reminds us of a few important things to keep in mind about our aging loved ones.

This is truly one of life's greatest challenges. Few people are prepared to be caregivers or care recipients. First we must recognize that growing older is a natural part of the lifecycle. That means that we must accept aging with grace, humor and dignity. That is difficult to do in this culture, where mass media extol By Dr. Joan C. Payne

the beauty and energy of the young. But accepting aging in oneself and others is critical if one is to thrive during the inevitable changes that accompany growing old.

All of the literature on caregiving describes how mature adults can themselves become frail and ill while providing care for others, particularly if the care recipient is a spouse. While caregiving has many, many rewards, frankly, the emotional and physical toll on the caregiver can be overwhelming. As we approach growing older, therefore, it will be important for all of us to arm ourselves with as many resources as we can on elder law, financial literacy, support groups, home health care, grief and family counseling, and types of housing for every stage of health needs. This is a good start.

It will also be important to talk with family members early about their roles in providing care for aging relatives in the immediate and extended family. As soon as possible, we should make certain that health care directives, wills, powers of attorney and other legal documents are in place so our own wishes and the wishes of present and future care recipients are clearly delineated.

As for our own care, there may be a time when we will have to stop driving and rely on our family support networks for even daily care. As I tell my students, no one wants to give up being independent, but that, too, is a part of the lifecycle. Be open to accepting change in oneself and one's living situation. Lastly, celebrate the love, concern and care that others give us in our times of need. INU

Joan C. Payne, Ph.D., ASHA fellow, is a professor and interim chair of Howard University's Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

In Their Shoes

Maurice and Kelechi C. Fluitt: A History and Herstory

HU doctoral students chronicle love story from their own points of view

Kelechi C. Fluitt (Anyanwu)

I'm sure you have heard the statement: "You will meet your future spouse in college." We met at Howard University, but as graduate students. As Christians, we believe that God connects the right people at the right time.

It was summer 2010, and we were both accepted to work as dorm counselors for the Howard Upward Bound program. As a veteran of the program, I wanted to show Maurice "the ropes," so I called a meeting. He was late and sweating, and I thought, 'He is not serious.' Although our professional relationship began on rocky terms, Maurice proved to be a phenomenal dorm counselor.

In fall 2010, I started my Ph.D. program in counseling psychology, and a year later, Maurice started his Ph.D. in genetics. Looking back, my friendship with Maurice was an essential part of my success at Howard. He was my friend, prayer partner, confidant, supporter and counselor. As time passed, I felt in my spirit that Maurice was the one. Our friendship evolved into a wonderful courtship, and I am excited to walk this journey called life with him. We are two doctoral candidates, racing toward the finish line. hand in hand. united as one.

Kelechi C. Fluitt (Anyanwu) is a doctoral candidate in the Counseling Psychology program in the Department of Education. She served as the graduate trustee on the Howard University Board of Trustees during the 2014–2015 academic year.



Maurice B. Fluitt (M.S. '11)

I'm amazed at how God brings us to the right places and people at the right time. This is true of my journey with Kelechi. We met on a humid day in June 2010. We both worked as dorm counselors for the Howard University Upward Bound program. Kelechi was the veteran, so she requested that we meet at Blackburn so she could "show me the ropes." Tired and hot from moving my stuff into Drew, I made it to our scheduled appointment ... 45 minutes late and drenched in sweat. Kelechi was not happy, and my chance of making a solid first impression was blown.

As Kelechi began her doctoral studies, our friendship continued to grow. We became connected at the hip and did everything together, from late-night study sessions in Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library to planning for Graduate Student Council events in the Graduate School. Over time, my feelings for Kelechi shifted and the angels sang. I realized that she was indeed my answered prayer-a God-fearing, driven, compassionate, witty and beautiful woman. I am grateful that God used Howard to connect me with my rib, my crown ... my wife.

Maurice B. Fluitt is a doctoral candidate in the Genetics and Human Genetics program in the Department of Endocrinology and Metabolism at the College of Medicine.

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In Their Shoes

Three Howard Students Named White House HBCU All-Stars

Three students from Howard— Lindsey Foster, Chaz Gibson and Jeanni Simpson—were named White House HBCU All-Stars. The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (WHIHBCUs) recognized 83 undergraduate, graduate and professional students for their accomplishments in academics, leadership and civic engagement.

The All-Stars were selected from more than 450 students. Throughout the year, the HBCU All-Stars will serve as WHIHBCUs ambassadors by providing outreach and communication to their fellow students about the value of education and the role of the initiative as a networking resource.

College of Arts and Sciences Student Lands Marshall Scholarship

Joel Rhone has been awarded a 2016 Marshall Scholarship. The scholarship, which fully finances young Americans' study for a degree in the United Kingdom, will allow Rhone, a senior English major, to study state power, war culture and the ways in which African-American literature has treated the African-American church in a master's degree program at the University of Manchester.



Two Howard Students Become Rhodes Finalists

Stacey Roheman has been selected as a 2016 Commonwealth Caribbean Rhodes Scholarship finalist. Roheman, a senior and legal communications major from St. Lucia, is a student-athlete on the University's tennis team and has a 3.9 GPA.

Roheman is interested in researching issues concerning police brutality while pursuing the senior status law degree—a shortened version of the standard three-year program. If selected, Roheman would earn



Women's Soccer Team Wins SWAC Championship



The Howard University women's soccer team won the 2015 Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) championship in November for the second year in a row, defeating Alabama State University. The Bison are the first SWAC team to win back-to-back championships in women's soccer. The victory secured Howard's first-ever trip to the NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship, where the Bison faced the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Va.

College of Engineering, Architecture & Computer Science Student's Work Recognized

The Science of Security Virtual Organization (SOS-VO) selected Anteneh T. Girma's research paper, "Cloud Computing Vulnerability: DDoS as Its Main Threat and Analysis of IDS as a Solution Model," for inclusion in the Science of Security (SOS) index of significant research in cybersecurity.

The National Security Agency Research Directorate sponsors the SOS Initiative to promote foundational cybersecurity science that is needed to develop the discipline and underpin advances in cyberdefense. The SOS-VO selection committee reviews 2,000–2,500 published papers in different categories of cybersecurity research. Only 10–15 percent (10–20 papers per category) are deemed significant research and included in the index.

Girma is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Systems and Computer Science. He acknowledged Professor Moses Garuba as most valuable to his research.



Bison Gallery

Homecoming





Howard University's 92nd Annual Homecoming started on Sept. 26 and culminated with Alumni Weekend, Oct. 1–4. Grammy Award winner and singer Estelle participated in the Bison football game's coin toss against the Norfolk State Spartans.

The Homecoming celebration included the following events: Fashion Show; Yard-Fest; President's Soiree; live recording of ESPN's His & Hers sports show with Michael Smith and Jemele Hill; R&B concert with Joe and Jazmine Sullivan; and Gospel Concert with BeBe Winans, Erica Campbell and The Clark Sisters. The week also featured a 5K run/walk to benefit the Howard University Hospital Diabete Treatment Center, President Frederick's State of the University Address and other events. View the slide presentation of the the Howard University Hospital Diabetes State of the University Address and other

Address: www2.howard.edu/sites/ default/files/SOU.ALUMNI.10.2.2015 FINAL.pdf. View a rec

View a recording of the Address: Ë http://bit.ly/1RjQYcz

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Here are a few snapshots from Homecoming 2015 events.







Winter 2016



President Wayne A. I. Frederick, Hon. John Lewis, Provost Anthony K. Wutoh, Dean Bernard Richardson and Dr. Taft H. Broome Jr. joined together singing "The Alma Mater."

Opening Convocation

Bison Gallery



The Hon. John Lewis, U.S. representative for the 5th Congressional District of Georgia, delivered the 148th Opening Convocation address on Sept. 25 in Cramton Auditorium. Lewis is a civil rights icon and the last living speaker from the 1963 March on Washington rally at the Lincoln Memorial. Convocation address on Sept. 25 in

The Opening Convocation at Howard is a time-honored tradition, officially signaling the start of the academic year. The ceremony is a welcoming event for new students and an opportunity to recognize recent University achievements. This marked Lewis' second appearance as speaker for the event.



Bison Gallery

Freshmen Move-In 2015





Howard University faculty, staff, personnel and returning students welcomed the largest class in nearly 30 years— 7,227 students—as they began arriving on campus in mid-August.



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

President Frederick Visits Alumni Clubs

Throughout the course of an academic year, President Wayne A. I. Frederick visits a number of Howard University Alumni Club engagement events across the country. Here are the places he's gone:

HOWARD UNIVERSITY ALUMNI CLUB ENGAGEMENT EVENTS



San Fransisco, California October 27-29, 2014

Dallas, Texas April 24, 2015

Houston, Texas April 26, 2015

Los Angeles, California March 29,2015

Chandler, Arizona July 24, 2015

<mark>St. Louis, Missouri</mark> July 31 - August 1, 2015

Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts August 16, 2015

Tampa, Florida September 15, 2015

Indianapolis, Indiana September 20, 2015

Chicago, Illinois September 27, 2015

Miami, Florida October 10, 2015

Las Vegas, Nevada November 23, 2015

Columbia, South Carolina January 30, 2016

<mark>Atlanta, Georgia</mark> February 19, 2016

Winston Salem, North Carolina February 20, 2016 BISON

Women'sVolleyballVolleyballTeamMEACChampions

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BISON

The Howard University women's volleyball team are champions of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) after the Northern Division champion Bison defeated the Southern Division champ Bethune-Cookman University in straight sets (25-18, 25-18, 25-21) to earn its eighth conference title and first since 1994.

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New Appointments

Kery D. Davis was appointed director, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Davis' most recent tenure with HBO Sports yielded the network lucrative multiyear agreements with major league sports and professional athletes, including Oscar De La Hoya, Roy Jones Jr., Lennox Lewis, Shane Mosley, Manny Pacquiao and Floyd Mayweather Jr. Davis holds a law degree from Cornell University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Dartmouth College.



Sandra Majors Gammons

(M.S.W. '95) was appointed director of admissions for the School of Social Work. Since leaving the Mecca, Gammons

has held leadership positions at the Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee Inc., UCAP and NonProfit Advantage LLC. Gammons will embrace the new challenges of recruiting social work students in a competitive market made more challenging by online programs and more available seats nationally. In addition, Gammons will lead the school's recruitment initiatives for the newly instituted dual-degree opportunities that allow students to plan dual M.B.A. and Ph.D. degrees with the Schools of Divinity, Business, Public Health and more.



Calvin Hadley (B.A. '08) was appointed student ombudsman, making him the designated student advocate authorized to investigate student complaints

and expedite solutions. Hadley reports directly to President Frederick.



Laura H. Jack, assistant vice president of marketing and branding, was also appointed interim vice president of development and alumni relations.

Since coming to Howard, Jack has helped the University develop and imple-

ment a more consistent brand image, launch a new athletic logo, increase the University's presence in social media, and implement the migration to a new website that features a contemporary design and improved navigation. Previously, Jack was the assistant dean for admissions, marketing and communications at Johns Hopkins University's Advanced Academic Programs.

Dr. Eric Poole (M. MUS. '03)



was appointed director of the choir. Previously, Poole served as assistant profes-

sor of music, department chair of visual & performing arts and director of choral activities at Saint Augustine's University in Raleigh, N.C. He was also conductor of Saint Augustine's choirs. Dr. Poole earned his undergraduate degree in music from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, a Master of Music from Howard University and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.



Fatima M. Mncube-Barnes, Ed.D., MPH, MSIS, was appointed executive director of the Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library.

She will be responsible for the library's management and administration and all other health sciences library services, with a special focus on academic programs and related Health Sciences Center-related requirements-including the Colleges of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing & Allied Health Sciences, Pharmacy, Howard University Hospital, the Student Health Center, the Health Sciences Simulation Center, and the Health Sciences Executive Office. Most recently, Mncube-Barnes was associate vice president, instructional technologies, at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn.

School of Education Receives 1.5 Million from NSF

The Howard University School of Education (HUSOE) was recently awarded nearly \$1.5 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support three research projects: 1) an award of about \$800,000 will support research on introducing engineering concepts into teacher preparation, led by Dr. Deena Khalil, assistant professor of math education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction; 2) a \$400,000 grant supporting research about broadening the STEM participation of African-American male students, led by Dr. Vinetta Jones, professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction; 3) a \$360,000 award supporting a project designed to engage high school juniors and seniors in physics, astronomy and cosmology (PAC) courses through popular media. Dr. Izolda Fotiyeva, a faculty member in the Center for Academic Excellence, is the project's principal investigator, and Drs. Marilyn Irving, HUSOE associate dean for research and sponsored programs, Marcus Alfred and Prabhakar Misra from the Howard University Department of Physics and Astronomy are the co-principal investigators.

On Campus

Howard University Class of 1969 50th Gift Campaign Seeks Alumni Support



The Howard University Class of 1969 50th Anniversary Legacy Fund needs allclass alumni support in raising \$1 million to provide need- and merit-based scholarships to eligible students. The scholarship funds will be presented at the Class of 1969 50th Reunion Luncheon in May 2019.

Although college enrollment for Black students is up to the 70th percentile, financial need is the No. 1 reason students are not able to complete their degree programs. At the University's local peer institutions, 15 percent of the student population is eligible for federal Pell Grants. In contrast, about 59 percent of the University's undergraduates are Pell Grant-eligible. This means that their family's income is extremely low or below the poverty line. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the University's four-year graduation

rate is double that of African-American students nationwide. The University was built on the principles of access and opportunity, and its ability to continue to deliver on this mission is critical.

The fund will accept cash and noncash contributions. One hundred percent of all tax-deductible donations will go toward assisting students in financial need. The University will facilitate one-time and recurring contributions, both electronically and via document submission. Please visit **www.howard. edu/1969LegacyFund** to donate.

School of Communications Launches Fact-Checking Site

The School of Communications' Department of Media, Journalism and Film has launched Truth Be Told, a fact-checking initiative aimed at debunking myths in the news and social media about Black people. The initiative stems from the \$35,000 micro-grant from the Challenge Fund for Innovation in Journalism Education that the school received last fall.

Truth Be Told will broaden its reach beyond politics and news to include any and all claims, habits, or culture of the Black community. Students across campus will work with Professors Yanick Rice Lamb, Ingrid Sturgis, Shirley Carswell and Jennifer Thomas, and New York Times Correspondent/former Hearst Visiting Professional Ron Nixon to tackle rumors, longstanding myths, political fodder and research found in news stories to verify the truth. Visit the site at TruthBeTold.news. For more information, contact hunewsservice@gmail.com.

College of Medicine Hosts Trailblazer in National Health Policy

The Department of Pediatrics and Child Health recently hosted Louis W. Sullivan, M.D., for a Special Grand Rounds presentation on "Health Equity in America." Dr. Sullivan is a well-known trailblazer in national health policy. In the early 1990s, he served as U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services. He was also the founding dean of Morehouse School of Medicine, where he currently serves as president emeritus.

School of Social Work Selects First Post-Doctoral Fellow

School of Social Work Dean Sandra Edmonds Crewe has selected Dr. Brianna Lemmons (M.S.W. '06; Ph.D. '15) as the school's inaugural post-doctoral fellow. This fellowship covers the 2015–2016 academic year. Lemmons' stellar accomplishments include superior academic performance and special awards for her excellence. During her M.S.W. study, she was selected for the school's highest academic award, endowed by Camille and William H. Cosby. As a doctoral student, she received the Frederick Douglass Doctoral Fellowship, the Hawthorne Dissertation Research Award and the Doris Duke Fellowship for the Promotion of Child Well-



Being at the University of Chicago. Lemmons' dissertation is titled "Exploring the Multiple Determinants of Father Involvement among Non-Resident African American Fathers: A Mixed Method Approach."

Howard and Georgetown Awarded \$27 Million Grant from NIH

A large clinical research program led by Georgetown and Howard universities has received a \$27 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Through the program, more than 4 million Washington-area residents have participated in clinical trials.

The award allows the two institutions, as well as the MedStar Health Research Institute and the Washington, D.C., VA Medical Center, to continue to support clinical and translational research—improving health care by developing and testing targeted, next-generation treatments for all human diseases.

School of Business Turns 45

The Howard University School of Business celebrated 45 years of academic excellence with an Anniversary Awards Dinner in October, at which the following outstanding alumni were honored: Brian P. Anderson, former Baxter CFO; Arlene Isaacs-Lowe, managing director at Moody's Investors Service; and Brooke Major-Reid, managing director at Morgan Stanley.

School of Pharmacy Seeks Volunteers

The Capitol City Pharmacy Medical Reserve Corps (CCPMRC), the first specialized Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) in the nation, seeks volunteers. A collaboration between the Howard University College of Pharmacy and the D.C. Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Administration, the CCPMRC are local pharmacy volunteers in Washington, D.C., who are focused



on improving the health and safety of their community. The group's goal is to increase the number of trained student pharmacists, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to prepare for and respond to emergencies and promote healthy living.

For information on how to become a member, call 202-806-3095 or email capitolcityrxmrc@gmail.com.

Legacy

Then

Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel, located on the University's main campus, has historically served as a center for cultural and religious activities for the University and the surrounding community. Built during Jeremiah Rankin's presidency (1890–1903), Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel was constructed in 1894–1895 and dedicated in 1896. It was named after Jeremiah Rankin's brother Andrew, whose widow contributed \$5,000 to the building fund. The chapel has been designated a National Historic Landmark.

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Now

Today, the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel's mission is to help prepare a new generation of leaders and feed their spiritual needs. The Chapel is the spiritual heart of the University. Each academic year, renowned preachers, activists, scholars and leaders continue the tradition of delivering powerful messages from the Chapel's pulpit. Services are held at 11 a.m. in Cramton Auditorium, 2455 Sixth Street, NW. To view the 2015–2016 schedule of Chapel speakers, visit **www2.howard.edu/ sites/default/files/Rankin%20Poster%201.pdf**.

JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

PepsiCo Celebrates HOWARD UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING 2015

PepsiCo continued its commitment to celebrating the African American community during Howard Homecoming 2015 – the most attended African American college homecoming in the country. This longstanding partnership brings together two organizations with a shared vision to attract, develop and produce leaders that represent culturally diverse backgrounds.

During this year's Homecoming, PepsiCo had an opportunity to engage and support the local community during the week-long celebration. PepsiCo rolled out the blue carpet with a "selfie mirror" photo opportunity at the Fashion Show, energized the crowd at the Pep Rally with cheersticks and distributed thousands of Pepsi beverages and Lay's snacks for the highly-anticipated Howard Homecoming Tailgate. Scratch DJ Academy was also there offering free DJ sessions and fans enjoyed music from Jae Murphy and DJ Premonition.

In partnership with Walmart, PepsiCo provided Howard University students with a chance to win a \$5,000 scholarship. Students entered to win the scholarship by writing a 500 word essay on how they have given back to the HU community. Vernon Yancy, a mechanical engineering major who is expected to graduate with the class of 2016, was the scholarship recipient.

PepsiCo was proud to participate in Howard Homecoming 2015 and celebrate the legacy and bright future of Howard University students, alumni and family.



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Alumni Profiles

Nicholas Askew

HU's Head Swimming and Diving Coach

By Betty Anne Williams



Brothers Joseph Askew (B.B.A. '92) and the late Mark Askew (B.B.A. '94; M.B.A. '96) had preceded him at the University. Each one had found a spot on the Howard Men's Swimming and Diving Team, and Nic—as he had all his life once again followed "two of the biggest role models in my life."

Coach Nicholas Askew is now in his second year leading the program in which he once excelled. He was named MVP for three of the four years he swam for Howard (1996–2001), set several records and was team captain.

At a time when other universities are retrenching, the Howard University swimming and diving program is on the move. The new, young coach has brought a fresh outlook to the team and some definite ideas about the roles he and his squad should play.

For the 2015–2016 academic year, Howard has the only NCAA Division I coed teams at any historically black college or university (HBCU). North Carolina A&T State University, which has a women's program only, plans to end it after this academic year.

"We are the only face you will ever see like this," Coach Askew said of his coed program. "We feel we have the face of what young African Americans can aspire to be." One can go to college, swim and even secure a scholarship.

Askew said the Bison program is robust because of strong support from President Wayne A. I. Frederick, the Board of Trustees, the Athletic Department and new Director of Athletics Kery

The Askevy Love Story

Coach Nicholas Askew met his wife, Christie Askew (B.S. '00), at Howard. Here are the details of their meeting:

When: Fall 1997

Where: The Howard Cafeteria

How: Mutual friends introduced Nicholas to, then, Christie Robinson.

Since Then: After graduation, Christie Askew worked in Howard's Development and Alumni Relations Department for 13 years. She now runs a business in Silver Spring, Md.—C'Sheree Boutique. Coach Nic and Christie Askew are the parents of a 1-year-old daughter, Aleea Soleil.

JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Davis. They all have been "creative" in providing what the team needs, Askew said.

One goal is to increase the successful Sponsor a Swimmer program, which raised about \$20,000 last year. Each swimmer needs about \$1,000 per year in support. The coach is looking for up to \$45,000 this year. INU

Betty Anne Williams is a Washington, D.C.-based editor and writer.

To **Sponsor** a Swimmer:

Make checks payable to **BISON EXPRESS SWIMMING** and mail to Coach Nicholas Askew, Howard University, Sixth and Girard Sts. NW, Washington, DC 20059.

Credit card contributions can be made online at **bit.ly/1QQ2sUt**.

Be sure to designate **BISON EXPRESS SWIMMING AND DIVING** as your contribution choice. You can also select the frequency of payments. The cost to fully support one swimmer for one year is \$1,000, or about \$80 per month. Contributions of any amount are welcome and all are fully tax deductible.

Alumni Profiles

Jennifer Henry

Founder, HillPoint Preparatory

By Katti Gray

In a New York University neuroscience laboratory, where she was the only Black researcher, Jennifer Henry, then a Ph.D. candidate, confronted a hard truth.

"We had people look at faces (on a computer screen) and, based on the faces, decide whether they would share a certain amount of money with the persons on screen. ... You share \$1, you get \$4. ... People, specifically, would not share with minorities, especially Black men."

Henry (B.S. '06) said those findings didn't shock her, given how fraught race and race-mythology are in America. They did, though, alter her course.

Pregnant with her and Jeffrey Henry's (B.B.A. '05) first child during those lab days, the mom-to-be devoured data and science articles on how cultural identity and racial attitudes can influence aca-

> 93% Percentage of Howard University students retained for the spring 2015 semester, out of the 1,451 first-time-in-college students who enrolled beginning fall 2014

demic performance and one's worldview. If her baby and other folks' kids were to be well-schooled, she'd help ensure that.

In 2014, she launched HillPoint Preparatory day care and preschool, a Jersey City, N.J., endeavor with a "neuronurture" learning model Henry hopes to replicate in other cities. Eventually, she plans to enroll first- through ninth-graders.

"Our model is research-based. ... Children learn best when you give them a multiple-perspective approach to education and an approach that is the most natural for how we learn," said Jennifer Henry, who traded the doctorate program for a less time-consuming master's degree in neuroscience so she could be home with Jackson Henry, now 5.

"Children learn best when they are physically involved and when they, to a large degree, help shape the direction of their education," she added.

That she founded a school partly owes to a can-do ethos she witnessed in full effect at Howard. "At NYU, the tapestry of what Howard started to weave for me—the link between education and culture and how education reinforces culture—became clear. There are historical issues at play. ... If I couldn't find the right institution for my child, I'd build one from scratch."

The Henry Love Story

The Meeting: On a fall 2002 Floridabound NAACP voter registration bus

The First Date: Dinner at Zanzibar

The Why: He combed a Florida beach for her lost flip-flops. She prayed him through his father's serious illness. They couldn't imagine a life apart.

PETER RIGO PHOTOGRAPHY

Said husband Jeffrey, a Wall Street executive who oversees HillPoint's finances: "You can achieve anything; you can accomplish anything. That's what we learned from Howard. We're running with this and don't plan to stop." HU

Katti Gray is a New York-based editor and writer.







Judge Michele Hotten, J.D., 1979,

was appointed to the Maryland Court of Appeals. Hotten has been a judge for the past 21 years, having served on the Maryland Court of Special Appeals, the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, and the District Court for Prince George's County.



Brian P. Anderson. B.B.A. 1974, was elected chairman of the Board of Directors for the Nemours

Foundation, an internationally recognized children's health system that owns and operates the Alfred I. DuPont Hospital for Children. Anderson had served on the Nemours Foundation Board since 2006 and succeeds John S. Lord.



Minnie Bavlor-Henry, B.S.P. **1972**, was added to YourEncore's Strategic Advisory Board and its Regulatory

Practice. YourEncore is a company that helps life sciences, consumer products and food companies solve complex product development and regulatory challenges.





Chris Christie. Breland serves in the Family Court Division.



Cheick Modibo Diarra, M.EG. 1982; Ph.D. **1987**, former internationally renowned NASA astrophysicist, has

Gerard H.

1985, was

Breland, B.A.

appointed judge

of the Superior

Court by New

Jersey Governor

been selected as a recipient of the 2015

Distinguished Alumnus Award of Tau Beta Pi, the International Engineering Honor Society.



Linda Retchin, D.H. 1984,

competed in the International Dragon Boat Federation Championship

with the United States Dragon Boat Federation in Welland, Ontario, over the summer.



Keith Perry, **J.D. 1989**, was appointed executive director of the National Bar Association.



CAROL WHITE RICHARDS

Honorable alumni judges (from left to right) Calvin D. Hawkins (J.D. 1970), Kelvin Jones (B.A. 1990), Michelle M. Hurley (B.A. 1992) and Benjamin Richardson (B.B.A. 1989) at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nev.

'90s



President Wayne A. I. Frederick, B.S. 1992; M.D. 1994; M.B.A. 2011, was appointed to the

Board of Directors of Mutual of America Life Insurance Company. The company specializes in providing retirement products and related services to organizations and their employees, as well as to individuals.



Tuaranna "Teri" (Patterson) Smith, B.B.A. 1997, married Paul Smith IV at the Mint Museum

Uptown in Charlotte, N.C. Patterson Smith is the deputy COO at the NFLPA, and Smith is a software engineer at Accenture. Patterson Smith was also recently named to *Sports Business Journal*'s 2015 class of Forty Under 40.



Christopher S. Randolph, J.D. 1994, was appointed administrative appeals judge for the U.S. Depart-

ment of Health and Human Services (HHS). As a member of the Medicare Appeals Council, Randolph reviews appeals from administrative law judge decisions in Medicare coverage and payment claims. The decisions of the council are the final administrative act of the secretary of HHS.



Patrick M. Oates, Ph.D. 1997, was appointed to the Scientific Advisory Board of the Wistar

Institute, an international leader in biomedical research with special expertise in cancer research and vaccine development. Oates, who has been affiliated with the institute for close to 10 years as a member of its Leadership Council, will now provide input to its research mission and strategy and be responsible for approving tenure for Wistar's prominent faculty.



Brandi (Ferguson) Pitts, B.B.A. 1996, was selected as a 40 Under 40 honoree by *Crain's Chicago*

Business. As senior director of integrated marketing at Reynolds Consumer Products, she is credited with reinvigorating leading household brands Reynolds Wrap and Hefty with innovative digital marketing strategies. Before her time at Reynolds, Pitts was a partner at advertising firm Ogilvy & Mather and marketing director at Kraft Foods Group.





LeFlouria, Ph.D. 2009, was elected to the Board of Directors for the Labor and Working-

Talitha L.

Class History Association, and the Historians Against Slavery.

Maj. Jeremy D. Broussard, U.S. Army, J.D. 2007, earned his LL.M. in military law with a concentration in

criminal law from the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in Charlottesville, Va. Maj. Broussard is the new special victim prosecutor at Fort Hood, Texas, responsible for the prosecution of all sexual assault, child victim and domestic violence cases at the busiest jurisdiction in the Army.



B.A. 2003, was cast to play "Missy," a character confirmed to be the hero Misty Knight, in Marvel's *Luke Cage* series. In

Simone Missick.

comics, Misty Knight is an ex-NYPD officer who developed superhuman strength after being given a bionic arm to replace the one she lost in the line of duty. Marvel has not yet announced the Netflix series' release date.



Evie M. Hightower, B.A. 2009, was

selected as one of The National Black Lawyers Top 40 Under 40.

Hightower is an associate at Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP. She joins an elite group of attorneys from Georgia and across the country as members of this honorary organization that recognizes outstanding Black attorneys under the age of 40 who exemplify superior leadership and achievements in the legal industry and within their communities.





Shara M. Chang, J.D.

Chang, J.D. 2009, was elected secretary of the D.C. Bar, the second largest unified bar

association in the United States. She is also a recipient of the Nation's Best Advocates Top 40 Under 40 Award presented by the National Bar Association. Chang is a financial services attorney at the law firm BuckleySandler LLP, where she advises leading financial institutions on a host of consumer protection laws.



Steve D. Mobley Jr., B.A. 2005, earned his Ph.D. in educational policy and leadership from

the University of Maryland-College Park. He specialized in higher and postsecondary education. His dissertation is titled Difference Amongst Your Own: The Lived Experiences of Low-Income African-American Students and Their Encounters With Class Within Elite Historically Black College (HBCU) Environments.



Marchlena "Marci" Rodgers, B.B.A. 2005, recently served as a production assistant/shopper

for the movie *Chi-raq* in Chicago. She worked under the leadership of Oscarnominated Costume Designer Ruth Carter and Academy Award-nominated Director Spike Lee.





Murphy, B.S. 2013, graduated from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Natasha

with a Master of Science in public health, health policy. She recently entered the Graduate Development Program at CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield.



T-Kea Blackman, B.A. 2012, launched a strategic communications firm. Nspire.

Nspire specializes in public relations, event production and partnership development. The firm's mission is to raise awareness of various social issues, shift perceptions and change behaviors by uniting entertainment and philanthropy. For more information, visit www. unitetonspire.com.

Phillip Lucas, B.A. 2010, recently moved from breaking news staffer for The Associated Press in Atlanta to a reporting position in Birmingham, Ala.



Erica Smith, B.B.A. 2011, was awarded a full-tuition Consortium fellowship to attend the Kelley

School of Business MBA Program at Indiana University, where she majors in marketing.



Jerell Blakeley, B.A. 2010, was

appointed a board member to the Mercer County Board of Social Services by

Mercer County Executive Brian Hughes over the summer. The board is charged with overseeing and setting policy for the more than 500-person New Jersey agency and managing the \$80 million budget.



Josephine Biemkpa, B.A. 2013, was

selected to serve in a leadership role with the National Black

Law Students Association (NBLSA). As the association's national director of membership, Biemkpa will chair NBLSA's membership committee, work with regional liaisons to assist current chapters and members, create new chapters, reactivate inactive chapters, and compile membership statistics and data.



Shawn C. Bush Jr., B.A. 2012,

Jr., B.A. 2012, was awarded the highly competitive 2015 Charles B. Rangel International Affairs

Fellowship. Bush will receive about \$95,000 in benefits over a two-year period to pursue a master's degree at Columbia University toward a career in the U.S. Foreign Service. The Rangel Fellowship is funded by the U.S. Department of State and managed by the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center at Howard University.



Howard Magazine 29

Bison Bookshelf



Grandma, a Treasure Forever (Archway Publishing), by Sharleen St. Surin-Lord (B.S. '96; M.D. '04), is a children's book that helps readers both young and

old—heal through the grieving process by explaining the loss of a loved one.

Three Iron Horses and a Butterfly (AuthorHouse Publishing), by Arthur H. Bolden (M.S. '62), is a nonfiction book about the family histories that communicate the his-



Artiur . Bolde

tory, culture and principles of two proud American families in the Back Swamp of South Carolina.



Fashion Designers and Fragrance (Saw the Elephant Books), by Andre' Barnwell (B.B.A. '86), explores the relationship between fashion lines and fragrance, and articulates the

benefits of designers including a fragrance with their fashion brands.

A Look Back in Time: Memoir of a Military Kid in the Fifties (Bernard N. Lee Jr.), by Bernard N. Lee Jr. (B.S.E.E. '69), is a memoir that recounts the true experiences of a child living in a military family.





Sketches: People-Watching in the US of A (Xlibris LLC), by Carmen Barclay Subryan, Ph.D. (B.A. '71), is a collection of artwork and poetry that chronicles the lives of everyday people

often encountered on the periphery of our existence.

Sunday Dinner (University of North Carolina Press), by Bridgette A. Lacy (B.A. '86), is a cookbook that includes 51 recipes inspired by Lacy's own childhood Sunday dinners.





Play Anthology (Applause Theatre & Cinema Books), by **Richard Wesley** (B.F.A. '67), is a book of five fulllength plays that outline a cultural history of Black

The Richard Wesley

America in the post-civil rights era.

Breaking the Chains of Addiction (St. Paul Press), by George Williams (M.Div. '05), discusses the author's journey through addiction, while offering an easyto-follow recovery



method from one's own addiction.



The Ambassador's Daughter (iUniverse LLC), by Harvey J. Williams (D.D.S. '69), is a novel and actionpacked thriller

(B.S.E.E. '71), is a collection of poetry, thoughts and prayers inspired by Amisial's life experiences as a Haitian immigrant driven to succeed.

Some Moments in My

Life (AuthorHouse),

by Wilfrid Amisial



that tells the story of a young woman kidnapped by South African militant factions out to influence the writing of the new South African constitution.



Danica Dramatica: Queen Me! (Nelson Publishing), by Lori Nelson Lee (B.B.A. '96), is a children's book about a fourthgrade "fashionista" named Danica Darcy who is trying to win the title of "Smoothie Queen."



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

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When retired educators Bertram McKeithen Sr. and Faith Walton McKeithen graduated from Howard in the '60s, little did they know how much of an ducational influence they would have on their children.

By Errin Whack

50

Howard University School of Business' ranking, according to Bloomberg *Businessweek*'s Best Business Schools 2015

'67





Faith Walton (B.A. '69) hardly expected to meet her husband at a football game. It was her sophomore year at Howard, and she was in the stands with a girlfriend whose homeboy was a member of Omega Psi Phi. The ladies were sitting near the fraternity, when one of its members stood up.

"I remember Bert standing up in his [ROTC] uniform, turning around and preening," Faith Walton McKeithen said. "I thought, 'He's so full of himself. He thinks he looks really, really good,' which he did!"

As Bertram McKeithen Sr. (B.S. '67) remembers it, their meeting was love at first sight.

"I happened to turn around, and I saw her and said, 'Wow.' That was it," he recalled. "I introduced myself. I don't know exactly what I said, but whatever it was, it worked."

A chance meeting nearly 50 years ago was the beginning of a dynasty of sorts: The McKeithens, married for 46 years, are both graduates of Howard University, as are all three of their children. The family wears their shared status as Howardites as a tremendous mark of pride, and Bert and Faith's romance unwittingly seduced their son and daughters into following in their footsteps.

Faith and Bertram both arrived on Howard's campus and in the big city of Washington, D.C., from rural settings she, from what is now Virginia Beach, Va., and he from Rocky Mount, N.C.

The couple met when Bert was a junior. Dates consisted of spending time at fellow classmates' apartments in the city, going to the monuments, or hanging at The Punchout, bowling or playing cards.

"We didn't have a lot of money, so you just did things that you could do," Faith said. "A lot of time was spent studying, because you had to keep your grades up. So we studied together, too."

Over the next year, the two fell in love. A year after Bert graduated, he proposed to Faith at her parents' house over the holiday break during her senior year.

One month after Faith graduated, the couple married in Norfolk, Va. In November, Bert—who had entered the Army after graduation and was stationed nearby at Ft. Meade in Maryland—was sent to Vietnam.

Gone for a year, he said Faith wrote to him every day, and the couple also made tape recordings.

"That got me through. I still have the letters," Bert said.

After the war, the young couple settled in Baltimore and started a family: A daughter, Piper, was born first; then a son, Bertram Jr.; and another daughter, Alison.

Faith began her career in education working as a speech pathologist—a career she stumbled into at Howard, after a professor encouraged her to pursue the field.

"It just really caught me, working in the speech lab. ... We worked with students who had speech difficulties," she recalled. "The coursework did prepare me for what I have done in my career."

Faith stayed home to raise her children for 13 years before going back to school to get a master's degree in special education and technology. She taught for nearly three decades, including teaching special education for four years, before becoming a technology coordinator in the Baltimore school system. She retired in 2010.

Bert taught physical and biological science for nearly 40 years before retiring in 2009. He said his path to teaching was formed by his experiences at Howard.

"I never wanted to be an educator because (in my experience) the prevailing attitude was, 'I got mine, you got yours to get.' I worked hard not to be like that as a teacher," Bert said. "At Howard, the student body was good at working together. I like that mentality, where if one makes it, everybody makes it. That was my approach as an educator."

Though they both had fond memories of their alma mater—which they returned to over the years—neither of the McKeithens pushed the children to follow in their academic footsteps. Still, they consider the fact that they did very special.

"We still have friendships with people that we met at Howard, and that's important," Faith said. "I know of many African Americans who have gone to predominately white schools, and they don't have ... that same closeness, the feeling of belonging. That's why I wanted my children to go to an HBCU. We are very proud that our children decided to choose our alma mater."

All three of Bertram and Faith McKeithen's children are also graduates of Howard University. Below, they each reflect on their experiences and what it means for their family to share in the Howardite tradition:

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Priority #1:

Building a

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Piper Faith McKeithen (B.A. '96)

I remember looking through my parents' yearbooks. We were very familiar with... their experience at Howard. That endeared me to the school because I knew about the importance of attending an HBCU. It instills a sense of confidence and pride, and there's also a comfort level there.

Bertram McKeithen Jr. (B.B.A. '99)

Piper going there had some influence. I helped move her in, and over the next two years that she was going there, before I applied to schools, I had gone up there a few times with my father. Being on campus a few times, I was pretty much sold! It was just the atmosphere there.

When people ask me where I went to school, I always enjoy saying, "My whole family went to Howard." I'm proud of it.

Alison Jo McKeithen (B.B.A. '02)

I followed my brother and sister to every school since I was a child. For me, it was like, "Should I be the black sheep and not be a part of the crowd?" I got accepted to other schools, but I think it was a little bit of the fear of the unknown. I'd be the only one who didn't have the Howard experience!

If there was no Howard University, there would be no us. **H**U

Hear the McKeithens tell their story at magazine.howard.edu.

'76

The House of Colonels

For retired U.S. Air Force Cols. Sandra Tynes and Lonzer Tynes Sr., achieving their uncommon ranks was one thing, but witnessing what happened while their youngest daughter attended Howard was another.

By Betty Anne Williams

For Sandra Tynes and Lonzer Tynes Sr., Howard University was an incubator for a unique partnership. After meeting there and later marrying, the couple went on to achieve a rare distinction: Each joined the U.S. Air Force and rose to the rank of colonel.

Lonzer K. Tynes Sr., colonel USAF (Ret.) (B.A. '76), hails from Norfolk, Va., and came to Howard knowing he wanted a career in the Air Force. He proudly joined Detachment 130, the University's ROTC program, and was commissioned as a first lieutenant. After graduation, he went on to a 30-year career, filling critical leadership roles in the Air Force Nuclear Command and Control arena and serving on the Joint Staff at the Pentagon.

Sandra Cosby Tynes, colonel USAF (Ret.) (B.S.N. '79), brought the singlemindedness she had developed as a student in Richmond, Va., to Howard

and focused on attaining a nursing degree. She enlisted in the Air Force after the couple married and had two of their three children. She served 25 years as a nurse and nursing administrator. Lonzer estimates that fewer than 1 percent of aspiring candidates get the promotion to colonel—one step short of general.

"To get promoted up to the rank of colonel is very competitive. Here, you had *two* successful [African-American] officers," said Lonzer.

Since the Air Force had first claim on their professional lives, the Tyneses moved 15 times over three decades, sometimes enduring extended separations where one took charge of the children while the other was away.

"Through all of this, we relied on the strong faith that we grew up with. The things our parents embedded in us saw us through," Lonzer said.

One of those values was a commitment to service. The mentoring, tutoring and assorted volunteer projects that each one undertook at Howard, and Lonzer's involvement in the anti-apartheid protests, have been followed by a stream of similar commitments wherever they lived.

"Howard University played an essential role in making me a good global citizen by increasing my awareness of global issues," said Sandra. "As a result of this awareness, I was prepared to take on unfamiliar challenges, embrace diversity and contribute to building better communities."

The Tyneses have since been busy planning their younger daughter's 2017 wedding: Taylor Tynes (B.S. '13) will marry Nadjitade A. Badje (B.S. '13), who she met at Howard. HU

Hear the Tyneses tell their story at magazine.howard.edu.

Betty Anne Williams is a Washington-based editor and writer.

President Frederick's Administrative Priority #2: Revitalizing the manner in which higher education institutions meet the needs of both students and the world today

EASAR


24 Average Howard University Class of 2019 ACT score



'05

Winning Over Others

Anthony and Stacey Watson attended Howard together. They attended the University of Michigan together. And they serve the community together.

By Sherina Rodriguez Sharpe

Anthony Watson and Stacey Gates Watson's secret to being a communityminded couple: co-power each other first.

"She's a mirror for me," said Anthony Watston (B.B.A. '05), reflecting upon why he chose to marry his wife, Stacey Gates Watson (B.A. '05). "Though we're very different, we have one key thing in common: W.O.O.—winning over others. We're very welcoming. We're the greeters at any event."

Anthony, who Stacey fondly refers to as A.J., met his wife in 2002, when they volunteered at a Howard Student Ambassador meeting. Back then, they had no idea that their W.O.O. would blossom into a partnership rooted in a love for empowering their community.

A.J. directs Youth Guidance's Becoming a Man Program in Chicago. The program works with 7th- through 12thgrade boys to lower the dropout rate and prevent violence.

"My heart loves the work that he does," said Stacey, a public relations and events manager for a Chicago firm, Beaman Incorporated. She recalls growing up in Atlanta, watching her mother bake for domestic violence shelters and drive senior citizens to the grocery store. By the time Stacey moved onto Howard's campus, she was committed to serving her community. A.J. remembers, early in their relationship, Stacey inviting him to spend her birthday volunteering at Miriam's Kitchen, a food bank on Howard's campus.

"There is truth in service," A.J. said. "It became a norm for us. I credit Stacey with pulling me deeper into service. She'd volunteer to see humanity. She'd see people rather the personas given to them."

The Watsons have found such harmony in echoing one another that they have swapped career tracks.

After attending graduate school at the University of Michigan together, Stacey and A.J. got married two weeks after their graduation in 2012. Stacey earned a master's degree in social work, while A.J., who believed he was headed for the President Frederick's Administrative Priority #3: Infusing service into the University culture

corporate sector, earned an M.B.A.

Stacey and A.J. see their partnership as the perfect training ground to challenge one another to grow. He is the spokesman of the two, while she is the heart.

Together, they are devoted to their ultimate joy, their 3-year-old daughter, Gabrielle Watson. "She reminds us of all the great things, of all that is possible," A.J. said.

A.J. added, "We've realized that we have a collective mission. We're still discovering what that mission is. But I know I cannot accomplish it without her." IIU

Sherina Rodriguez Sharpe is a Detroit-based writer.

Philanthropic Puzzling

Given their entrepreneurial success, Eddie C. and C. Sylvia Brown have made it their business to give back in a major way.

By Stephanie Zerweck

In Baltimore's Ivy Hotel parlor, a woman in a blue dress and man in a grey suit sit down to assemble a hand-carved jigsaw puzzle.

"She is excellent at these," said the soft-spoken gentleman. "The question is: Where do I start?"

Florida-born Edward "Eddie" Carl Brown (B.S.E.E., '61) of Allentown, Pa., started with what he recalled about meeting his wife—then Carmen Sylvia Thurston (B.S., '62) of King William, Va.

"I remember the story was that, in our freshman year, we did not meet," said Eddie, then an electrical engineering student and member of Omega Psi Phi. "But, my fraternity brother told me that his girlfriend's roommate from freshman year was anxious to meet me."

C. Sylvia Brown—the daughter of a high school principal and teacher remembered something different.

"That's not true," she exclaimed, many

years familiar with the tongue-and-cheek revisionist history of her first days as a member of Delta Sigma Theta and a physical education student.



While they may affectionately disagree on how it all began, C. Sylvia knew that Eddie was far more than just a college boyfriend when he met her family and they were "OK" with him.

The two later married and moved to Monmouth, N.J.—Eddie to spend two years in the Army and C. Sylvia to teach in a nearby city. From there to IBM and parenthood, to New York and Indiana, to M.B.A. and Masters of Public Health, and eventually to Baltimore, money/ property management, entrepreneurship and philanthropy. To date, the couple has donated more than \$250,000 to Howard University programs. From education to the arts to public health, the Browns have kept their charitable giving grounded in familial interests, interlocking need with reason.

"We wanted to have our daughters and, futuristically, our grandchildren grandsons, in this case—involved, incentivized to think beyond themselves, about others, in kind of a multigenerational mindset of giving back," said Eddie.

The couple likes to travel with their own family, expanding the classroom for their grandchildren.

"One of the next family trips I hope we can take is down to Selma," said Eddie, snapping a piece of the puzzle into place. "What's important to us is to have our grandchildren know the history and the struggles and be able to not take it for granted." HU

> Read more about the Browns at magazine. howard.edu.

President Frederick's Administrative Priority #4: Increasing philanthropic efforts of the University community LLUSTRATION BY EVAN TIDWELL-CARTER; JUSTIN D. KNIGH

'61



1

The Victorian use the arts and the law to effect change in their community.

By Stephanie Zerweck





When the curtains first rose on Michael Victorian (B.A., '05) and wife Roxi Victorian's (B.F.A., '04) relationship in 2004, the choreography was not yet rehearsed, and a scan of the hollows in between those seated revealed that the box office still held more than a ticket or two left. Thus began the production of the classically trained ballerina and strategic litigator.

The couple met at their friend Simone Baskerville's (B.F.A., '05) house.

"I went upstairs for like five seconds and came down and they are heeing and hawing on the sofa," said Baskerville.

"It was right after the 2004 election, Bush-Kerry," said Michael Victorian. "I remember talking about politics, religion, everything, all in one swoop," said Roxi Victorian. Each response is now a seamless and single motion by the pair, each recollection a joint effort.

Roxi, now a professional dancer and dance teacher, trained at the British Academy of Dramatic Arts, The Juilliard School and the International School of Ballet in Cannes, France. She recently opened her own Baton Rouge-based dance studio, Ballet Victorian.

Michael, now a lawyer practicing labor/employment, health care and education law at Phelps Dunbar LLC, was a public relations (PR) student. He studied under Roxi's father, Ofield Dukes, founder of the Howard University School of Communication's PR program. Dukes was a PR executive who served in President Lyndon B. Johnson's administration and represented clients like Motown Records in the entertainment field.

Michael's clarity of purpose complements and counterbalances Roxi's spark of humor—which, in turn, allows him to unwind.

He is the lawyer who seamlessly persuades. She is the teacher who teaches before knowledge is defined. Their performance makes the knee twitch and the fingers tap, breath hold and pupils dilate. They've both rehearsed to instinctiveness. President Frederick's Administrative Priority #5: Engaging in scholarship and research grounded in solving contemporary problems

Whether it's supplying dance costumes to students who would otherwise go without, providing guidance to at-risk youth, or teaching their own son, 8-yearold Michael "Mikey" Dukes Victorian, Roxi and Michael help children reveal their best selves.

"Mikey was ... 6 or 7," said Baskerville, "and he's asking me, do I know the definition of symbiotic, and he proceeds to tells me the definition."

According to Michael, "a big part [of] how we're raising our child and how we think about going through the day is: 'Am I making this way passable for the next capable African American?'" HU

Read more about the Victorians at magazine.howard.edu.



ILLUSTRATION BY EVAN TIDWELL-CARTER

Miracle, Magic, Mission

Andrae and Courtney Townsel went from Howard's football field and basketball court to making a difference in secondary education and medicine.

By Katti Gray



When the Lady Bisons' standout he'd been eyeing was finally detached from her hometown boyfriend, suitor Andrae Townsel dispatched one of his Bison football teammates on his behalf: "I said, 'Marvin, since you know her, why don't you go say hello.' He went up and said, 'Hello.' And that's all he said."

Laughter flooded the phone lines between the couple's household in Washington, D.C., and wife-and-mother Dr. Courtney Townsel's temporary outpost at the University of Connecticut. In D.C., Andrae Townsel co-parents the couple's son, Andrae Jr., 4, and is vice principal of one of the nation's premier, primarily Black magnet high schools, Benjamin Banneker Academic. In Connecticut, through the vaunted UConn Maternal-Fetal Medicine Fellowship, Courtney is honing her physician chops in stopping high-risk pregnancies among women

of color, especially the poor. She heads home on weekends.

"I'd noticed her on the court and was, like, man I like that No. 25," said Andrae (B.S. '07; M.Ed. '09; Ed.D. '15), remembering.

"And my whole thing," said his eventual bride (B.S. '07), "was that I didn't want to be involved with a football player and all that (stereotypical) drama. I was trying to be focused and stay on my path."

On their first date, they found they had a lot in common and a connection that was miracle, magic and mission-driven.

They were wholly invested in doing good and acutely attuned to the ways in which Howard's faculty and far-flung alumni have modeled what that means.

"Mr. Suttles, one of the few Black male teachers in my school back in Detroit, spoke life into me," Andrae said. "And I've wanted to be that male figure who can inspire or instigate thought [and] ... hope into our kids. Once I got into the field and saw the need, I decided to take that on full speed. ... Howard helped cultivate that drive."

"And we help motivate each other," said Courtney, a Georgetown University Medical School grad whose research has been published by, among others, the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecol*ogy and *American Academy of Emergency Medicine*.

The couple envisions someday transporting their skills back to Howard's campus: "It would be easy to take a nice job, 9 to 5, once I'm done with my fellowship, to see patients [at Howard University Hospital]," Courtney said. "So many days, I walked past [it], honoring that work and understanding the scope of the community ... and what the community needs." ITU

> Katti Gray is a New Yorkbased editor and writer.

President Frederick's Administrative Priority #5: Engaging in scholarship and research grounded in solving contemporary problems KNIGHT

JUSTIN D.

LLUSTRATION BY EVAN TIDWELL-CARTER;

20 Howard University Family Issue 0 TTHE 1104 Average Howard University Class of 2019 SAT score

50HULoveSnippets

Fifty couples who met at Howard talk fun facts about their relationship.









Marc Gay (B.S. '92)
Real Estate Agent, Keller Williams and Musician +
Darlene Gay (B.F.A. '97)
Inside Sales, Mattco Forge, Inc.
Location: Los Angeles, Calif.
The Meeting: Spring 1993, while Darlene was in the hair and makeup chair during the video shoot of "Baby I'm Yours" on the main campus. Marc chose Darlene from her Polaroid picture to play his love interest in the video.
The First Date: Getty Villa, in Malibu, Calif., and then Chart House to people watch The Why: "We have peace, calm and a great understanding with respect for each other."

Jonathan Howard (B.S. '04) High School Biology Teacher and Basketball Coach + Ebony Howard (B.A. '04) Civil Rights Attorney Location: Birmingham, Ala. The Meeting: Fall 2000, as freshmen, at the Blackburn Café (then referred to as "The Café"). A mutual friend introduced the two at dinner. The First Date: The movies in 2000 to see the Spike Lee film "Bamboozled" The Why: "We make each other happy. It was the first time that either of us had found peace in another person's presence."

Tristan Gray (B.A. '10) Diplomatic Security Officer, Department of State + Diamond Gray (B.A. '10) Producer, SiriusXM PGA TOUR Radio Location: Alexandria, Va. The Meeting: September 2007, at the benches in front of the West Towers. They bonded over being from California, debating differences between Northern and Southern California. The First Date: A quick bite from Potbelly before being late to catch a movie The Why: "Eight years later, we still debate over our hometowns, we still miss In-N-Out Burger, we still hate the Red Line and we are still best friends!"

Lion Shaw (B.S. '98) Property Manager, Oakland Park Townhomes + Lori Duckett Shaw (B.S. '00) Pediatric Emergency Medicine Physician, Midtown Medical Center Location: Atlanta, Ga. The Meeting: Lori's second year of undergrad in Spring '98, while playing volleyball on the mall. The two met through another HU Alpha Phi Alpha/Alpha Kappa Alpha couple. The First Date: Taste of DC The Why: Lion: "[She is] conservative, cautious and hot." Lori: "He is not conservative and cautious, but hot, and he was and is always thoughtful of me and others."





Mark Davis (B.A. '93) SVP Creative Advertising, 20th Century Fox + Stephanie Morgan Davis (B.B.A. '99) Associate Director, Digital Operations, OMD Entertainment Location: Los Angeles, Calif. The Meeting: Kappa Koolout in 1998 The First Date: Lunch at California Pizza Kitchen The Why: "From that moment [the first date], I knew something was different about Mark. He was just different than anyone I had ever met. We talked as if we knew each other for years, and here we are 16 years later."

Love Anani (M.D. '12)

Emergency Medicine Physician + Uchenna Anani (B.S. '10; M.D. '12) Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellow, Vanderbilt University Location: Nashville, Tenn. The Meeting: July 2008 during new medical school orientation outside of Numa P.G. Adams, after noticing their Nigerian background during roll call. The First Date: Private dinner in Silver Spring, Md., after ditching a group date The Why: "[We] knew if [we] could survive medical school together, [we] could survive anything."



William Little (B.F.A. '08)
Psychological Operations Specialist, United States Army +
Dhakeria Cunningham-Little (B.F.A. '08)
Stay-at-Home Mother and Full-time Entrepreneur
Location: Ft. Bragg, N.C.
The Meeting: August 2004, during a voice class in the Fine Arts Annex Building. The two were doing yoga, and William noticed Dhakeria stretching.
The First Date: Saw a play at Ford's Theatre
The Why: "We had almost everything in common. ... We both loved the arts. ... Howard made us and together we will continue to change lives and make history."



















Christopher Newsome (B.S.M.E. '08) Marine Engineer, Downey Engineering + Christiana James Newsome (B.A. '09) School Support Program Manager, New Schools for New Orleans Location: New Orleans, La. The Meeting: Spring 2007, when the two both crossed the burning sands into Kappa Alpha Psi, Xi Chapter, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter The First Date: Christiana's bad cold turned dinner and a movie into a detour to Walgreens. Christopher bought medicine and made hot tea before leaving Christiana to rest. The Why: "She showed me true loyalty, friendship and companionship."

Floyd Long Jr. (B.B.A. '90; M.B.A. '93)

Chief Operating Officer, Health and Hospital Corp. and Coler-Carter Nursing and Rehab + Glenda Long (B.S.N. '92) Nurse Practitioner, Montefiore Medical Center Location: Queens, N.Y. The Meeting: Freshman year, 1985, at the front desk of the Quad, where Glenda resided. Floyd's cousin introduced the two in the first few weeks of school. The First Date: Hogates Seafood Restaurant, where Floyd got a discount on an all-you-can-eat Crab Fest. The Why: "We fell in love ... but largely because we fit into each other's overall plan."

Dr. Kwame Marcus Asomani (B.S. '95; M.S. '00; D.D.S. '07)

General Dentist, Adventure Dental +

Dr. Andrea Faust-Asomani (B.S. '96; M.S. '00; D.D.S. '07)

General Dentist, Unity Healthcare

Location: Upper Marlboro, Md.

The Meeting: In front of Douglass Hall, 1993, through a mutual friend The First Date: Lunch at L & N Seafood Grill in Pentagon City Mall in Virginia The Why: "We had become inseparable best friends and realized that we never wanted to be apart from each other."

Marvin Kendall II (B.S. '05)

Systems Engineer, Medidata Solutions +

Shelley Kendall (B.S.S.C.S. '05)

Business Operations Manager, Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.

Location: North Brunswick, N.J.

The Meeting: Freshman year, August 2000, during orientation in the School of Engineering. The two had the same advisor, who asked Marvin to help Shelley with her schedule.

The First Date: Dinner and a movie at Pentagon City on Valentine's Day

The Why: "We became best friends, could always make one another laugh and connected on a level different than most."

James Alexander (B.S. '13)

J.D./M.Div. Dual-Degree Candidate, Vanderbilt University + **Symone L.M. Alexander (B.S.C.H.E. '13)** Ph.D. Candidate, Macro-Molecular Science & Engineering, Case Western Reserve University

Location: Nashville, Tenn., and Cleveland, Ohio The Meeting: Second semester freshman year. James first saw Symone on Facebook through mutual friends. After messaging her, Symone agreed to meet up with James.

The First Date: Went to church together on Easter Sunday, had dinner and watched the movie "Why Did I Get Married Too?"

The Why: "We realized life wouldn't be as wonderful without each other."











Jason Young (B.B.A. '99) Controller, K. Hovnanian Home Builder + Carmesha Smith-Young (B.B.A. '98) Business Partner in Global Development, Marriott International Location: Columbia, Md. The Meeting: Fall 1996, in Intermediate Accounting class at the School of Business The First Date: Dinner at Ruby Tuesday's and bowling at AMF Bowling Alley in College Park on Valentine's Day in 1998 The Why: "After dating for 2½ years, we knew we were right for each other. We got engaged on Oct. 14, 2000, and 10 months later, we had our wedding August 11, 2001."

Phillip San Gabriel (B.Mus.Ed. '09; M.Mus.Ed. '11) Music Teacher, Isaac J. Gourdine Middle School + Kathryn San Gabriel (B.B.A. '10; M.Ed. '13) Math Teacher, A. Mario Loiederman Middle School for the Creative and Performing Arts Location: Lanham, Md. The Meeting: First day of band camp, fall 2006, in front of the Blackburn Center. Phillip was the section leader, and Kathryn was entering the band as a freshman. The First Date: Visit to the National Harbor, then a walk along the pier The Why: "We love each other! Though we are polar opposites in some respects, we are exactly the same in others."

Damien Robinson (B.S. '08)

ACES Academic Coach, Montgomery College + **Camille Robinson (B.S. '08)** Pediatric Resident, Johns Hopkins University **Location:** Upper Marlboro, Md. **The Meeting:** Freshman year at a Howard University California Club party in D.C. A close friend, who was also from California, introduced them at the party. **The First Date:** National Mall to tour the monuments at night **The When** "Overall there is nothing like a Hernard Man, and there is nothing like a Hernard Ware

The Why: "Overall, there is nothing like a Howard Man, and there is nothing like a Howard Woman. We... have the same passion for making a difference in young people's lives."

Harrison Boller Jr. (B.S. '02)

Lead Case Manager, Veterans Empowerment Organization + Kalena Michele Boller (B.A. '04) Location Manager/Coordinator, Big Medicine Productions, LLC Location: Metro Atlanta, Ga. The Meeting: October 7, 2000, at the Shaw-Howard Metro Station heading to Union Station for the Columbus Day weekend. Kalena asked Harry how to get to Union Station. The First Date: The National Zoo The Why: "It was a natural progression from the relationship we established initially. We are best friends who share the same values, character and sense of humor."

Kemal Y.L. Simpson (B.S.E.E. '09)

Process Safety Engineer, LyondellBasell + **Dawn V. Simpson (B.A. '05)** Healthcare Administrator, Houston Methodist Hospital **Location:** Houston, Texas **The Meeting:** May 19, 2006, at a party Dawn threw in her apartment on First Street near campus. A guest invited Kemal, so he essentially crashed Dawn's party. **The First Date:** The movies to see "It's Complicated," shopping and dinner at Capital Grille **The Why:** Kemal: "She is everything that I could ever ask for." Dawn: "Kemal embodies the qualities that I believe a husband should have, and he brings balance to my life."











Keith A. Laing (B.A. '05) Policy Reporter, The Hill + Ashley N. Hagans Laing (B.B.A. '07) Senior Manager-Audit, KPMG LLP Location: Alexandria, Va. The Meeting: October 2004, around the time of the School of Communications job fair in the lower lobby of the Blackburn Center. The N.C. Club president introduced the two. The First Date: Georgia Club and North Carolina Club's "Ridin' Dirty on 85" Skate Party The Why: Several years after a breakup, "we immediately reconnected [and] found that the time apart had matured us in ways that made us better partners." Kendell Johnson (B.S.C.E. '00)

Structural Engineer, U.S. Department of State +
Dana Williams-Johnson (B.A. '00)
Adjunct Professor, School of Business, Howard University
Content Manager, National Association of Home Builders
Location: Clinton, Md.
The Meeting: Freshman year, 1996, at the Ice Cream Social that the Campus Pals put on in the Valley. Kendell originally liked Dana's friend, who then introduced Dana to Kendell.
The First Date: Dana took Kendell out for pizza at her favorite restaurant.
The Why: "We love each other, share the same values, goals and dreams for each other."

Marcus Khristopher Oliver, J.D. (B.A. '97)

Licensed Attorney, Sampson Oliver & Associates + Karia Kelch-Oliver, Ph.D. (B.S. '98) Licensed Psychologist, Kaiser Permanente of Georgia Location: Decatur, Ga. The Meeting: February 14, 1996, passing each other in the hallway on the 4th floor of the West Towers. Karia initiated the conversation, and the two exchanged phone numbers a week or so later. The First Date: Bison Ball in Spring 1996 The Why: "Love ... our genuine friendship, mutual respect and similar values."

Jonathan Brown (B.B.A. '01)

Financial Advisor and CEO, The Brown Services Group, LLC + Keri Archer Brown (B.A. '01) Line Producer for Sirens Media, LLC Location: Silver Spring, Md. The Meeting: Freshman year, around 11 p.m. on October 31, 1997, at the Halloween Party at Meridian Hill Hall. Jonathan approached Keri as she danced by herself and asked for her number. The First Date: Senior year, Keri asked Jonathan to the huge art show "Art-O-Matic." The Why: "There was never any holding back."

Earl Fitzhugh (B.S.M.E. '06) Engagement Manager, McKinsey & Company + Patricia Fitzhugh (B.A. '07; J.D. '11) In-house Counsel, Interactive One, LLC Location: New York, N.Y. The Meeting: Spring 2005, just after Patricia crossed Alpha Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sorority Inc., at a BBQ. A mutual friend introduced the two. The First Date: A small restaurant in D.C.'s Chinatown The Why: Earl: "I couldn't envision who I would be without her." Patricia: "We share many of the same core values and aspirations. ... I owe it all to Howard University!"





Byron Stewart (B.A. '06)
Motivational Speaker, The ASJ Group +
Lindsey Stewart (B.A. '08)
Senior Consultant, Deloitte Consulting
Location: Glenn Dale, Md.
The Meeting: In 2004, through the School of Communications' Student Council activities
The First Date: Lunch, spa, met the parents, friends, dinner and a good night kiss at the Mandarin Hotel in D.C.
The Why: "We've found a friend, lover, confidant and partner in each other. Life doesn't make sense when we're apart!"

Brian Jackson (B.B.A. '92) QA Automation Lead, Sintec Media +

QA Automation Lead, Sintec Media +
Tadia Jackson (B.A. '92; J.D. '95)
Managing Partner, Porter and Whitner Law Group
Location: Lawrenceville, Ga.
The Meeting: Fall 1988 on The Yard. One of Brian's friends arranged for Tadia to be on the yard so that Brian could meet her.
The First Date: Dinner at Houston's in Georgetown
The Why: "We just knew. Having that shared and common experience of Howard University made picking one another a no-brainer. It was love—Bison Love."

Marques Julius (B.A. '05; M.A. '08; D.P.T. '13) Physical Therapist, Fox Rehabilitation +

Crystal Taylor-Julius (B.A. '05) Practice Groups Activity Coordinator, American Health Law Association Location: Alexandria, Va. The Meeting: Fall 2004, Crystal bumped into Marques in front of the Chapel. The two talked for so long that Crystal missed her last class of the day. The First Date: Ice skating in Brooklyn, N.Y. The Why: Marques: "Her smile made me light up like a Christmas tree." Crystal: "Despite everything we had been through ... he always made me want to be a better person."

Salim Sobers (B.A. '04)

Associate Director, Turner Sports + **Grace Sobers (B.S.N. '05)** Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, Promised Land Women's Center **Location:** Atlanta, Ga. **The Meeting:** August 2000, during Freshman Week in the Café. The two didn't start dating until their junior year. **The First Date:** To see the movie "Drumline" during a snow storm on December 17, 2002 **The Why:** "We were great friends and make even better life partners. We share a wonderful life together in Atlanta, raising our two children, who will, hopefully, attend Howard."

Kyle E.G. Smith (B.A. '10)

Captain, U.S. Air Force, Federal Procurement and Acquisitions + **Korene E.J. Smith (B.B.A.'10)** Contract Specialist, U.S. Air Force, Federal Procurement and Acquisitions **Location:** Warner Robins, Ga. **The Meeting:** January 4, 2007, freshman year, in front of Cramton Auditorium while waiting on the shuttle to Meridian. A mutual friend introduced the two. **The First Date:** Visited the National Museum of African Art and explored the National Mall **The Why:** "We found that we were each at our best while together. ... Five years and two children later, we are even more in love."











David A. Porter (B.A. '90) Vice President, Staffing Etc. + Hope Porter, RN, Esq. (B.S.N. '88) President and CEO, Staffing Etc. and Armari Group Location: Bowie, Md. The Meeting: February 1988 in front of Cramton Auditorium after a Bison basketball game. A mutual friend introduced the two. The First Date: Watched Black history movies at the Undergraduate Library The Why: David: "I was attracted to Hope's beauty, intelligence and kindness." Hope: "David was and is a nice, kind gentleman. He ... spoke to me in places where no one else had before."

Akadius Berry (B.B.A. '05)

Senior Manager, Global Marketing – Growth Segments Carrier Networks, Corning Optical Communications +

Tamra Berry (B.A. '05)

Senior Vice President and Human Resources Manager, Bank of America Location: Charlotte, N.C. The Meeting: Freshman year in the lower gym in Burr. Their first conversation occurred when the two were on a double date ... with different people! The First Date: Bowling at AMF College Park during senior year The Why: "We enjoy each other's company, have a lot of fun together, share common goals/desires and, more than anything, have a shared faith in God.

Curtis Allen (B.B.A. '98)

Branch Chief, U.S. Census Bureau +

Dawn Hunt Allen (B.A. '99; M.Ed. '00) Training Specialist, Defense Logistics Agency

Location: Laurel, Md.

The Meeting: November 1995 at the Howard University Post Office. A friend introduced the two. **The First Date:** Went to a movie at Union Station and dinner at Ruby Tuesday **The Why:** "After dating for four years, we decided that we wanted to spend the rest of our [lives] together."

Chaz Davis (B.S. '01)

Special Agent, Homeland Security Investigations and Deputy Chief of Staff to the Deputy Director at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement +

Julia Miles-Davis (B.A. '04) Founder and CEO, Simone Vivian, LLC, Fashion and Image Consulting Agency Location: Washington, D.C. The Meeting: During the 1999 Homecoming Fashion Show. Chaz was a model, while Julia styled models backstage. The First Date: Ate dinner at Georgetown Café and walked along the Georgetown Waterfront Park The Why: "[Our] chemistry was undeniable."

Frederick Turner (B.A. '06)

Speech Language-Pathologist, Beaumont-Oakwood Hospital + **Torri Turner (B.A. '07)** Community Relations Communication Coordinator, General Motors Corporation **Location:** Detroit, Mich. **The Meeting:** January 2005 in journalism class. Fred harassed Torri in class, and their friendship blossomed. **The First Date:** Dinner on U Street and a friend's birthday party **The Why:** Fred: "Life is easier with her and because of her." Torri: "Fred ... is a man of his word! Everything he said he was going to do, he has."









Wilbur Chaney II (B.B.A. '07)
Associate Marketing Manager, Nationwide +
Erin Kendrick Chaney (B.B.A. '07)
Senior Bra Merchant, Victoria's Secret
Location: Columbus, Ohio
The Meeting: Freshman year 2003 in "The Quad." A mutual friend introduced the two.
The First Date: Dinner and an impromptu walk from Dupont Circle to Chinatown
The Why: "Love is an action and a choice. ... Although the train and bus rides between New York and D.C. weren't too bad, the distance helped us realize we'd rather choose to grow together than apart."

Darren Matthews (B.B.A. '12)

Finance Manager, Prestige Ford +
Candace Matthews (B.B.A. '12)
Sales Apprentice, Lennox International and Founder and Principal, The Luxus Agency
Location: Orlando, Fla.
The Meeting: Monday, August 18, 2008, during Freshman Week on "The Yard." Two mutual friends introduced the two.
The First Date: Shopping at Pentagon City Mall and a movie at Union Station
The Why: Darren: "I love her unconditionally. ... There is no end when it comes to her love for me."
Candace: "He taught me unconditional love in his love for me."

William Napper (B.B.A. '01)

Business Banker, Wells Fargo + **Torey Mack (B.S. '02; M.D. '06)** Neonatologist, D.C. Department of Health **Location:** Chevy Chase, Md. **The Meeting:** Summer 2000 outside of Cook Hall. The two met while working at HU's summer housing program. **The First Date:** Saw a play at Ira Aldridge Theater and ate pizza at Jasmine's **The Why:** "We became best friends sharing our love of music, movies and sports, and realized we wanted our friendship to last a lifetime!"

Sean Andre' Blondell, Esq. (B.B.A. '03)
Attorney, Don A. Rouzan & Associates, LLC +
Laci Ann Rouzan-Blondell (B.B.A. '03)
Principal, ReNew Schaumburg Middle School
Location: New Orleans, La.
The Meeting: Freshman year, August 1999, at the School of Business. The two met among a group of mutual friends who were all from the South.
The First Date: Poetry night at a lounge called Paesano's after the two graduated
The Why: Sean: "Laci ... is the perfect nexus between beauty and intelligence." Laci: "He was the coolest, cutest, most cultured and intelligent guy I knew."

Ronald M. Saul II (B.B.A. '08)

Registered Investment Representative, Vanguard Group + **Tyria M. Saul (B.B.A. '08)** Social Media Marketing Manager, RES Software **Location:** King of Prussia, Pa. **The Meeting:** Junior year, August 2006, at an off-campus party. Ronald Facebook messaged Tyria the next day and asked for her phone number. **The First Date:** Dinner at Alero Restaurant on U Street **The Why:** "We understood each other. There is something special about having that person that just gets you from the beginning. ... It's refreshing."



















Everette J. Callaway (B.S. '07) Finance Analyst, Blackboard Inc. + Brittani D. Saafir-Callaway (B.S. '08) Epidemiologist, D.C. Department of Health Location: Greenbelt, Md. The Meeting: Fall 2006 in the Valley. The two were volunteering with Freshmen Move-In through their respective Greek letter organizations. The First Date: Saw the play "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" at Ira Aldridge Theater The Why: "After spending 2007–2010 long distance ... we realized we weren't big fans of saying the goodbyes, so we decided not to."

Edward Reese (B.B.A. '11)

Project Manager, Fannie Mae +

Joy Holloway-Reese (B.B.A. '12)

Accountant, Fannie Mae

Location: Capitol Heights, Md.

The Meeting: Spring 2009, but didn't interact until 2010 during their Quantitative Business Analysis class. The two started studying together.

The First Date: Dinner and a movie

The Why: Edward: "She was truly my partner in crime who I could talk to for hours about anything." Joy: "When we met, we connected on such a deep level."

Charles A. Maxell Jr. (B.A. '92)

Executive Vice President, FINEX North America, Willis North America, Inc. + Jennifer Maxell (B.A. '93) BEINGS Coordinator, Emory University Center for Ethics Location: Smyrna, Ga. The Meeting: Homecoming Week 1988 at the Miss Howard Pageant in Cramton Auditorium. Jennifer's friend introduced her to Charles. The First Date: Both preachers' kids, they chose to go to church and brunch. The Why: "We took care of and sacrificed for each other when most people were extremely self-serving."

Pastor Terence K. Leathers (B.A. '86; M.Div. '90)

Pastor, Mt. Vernon Christian Church +

Dr. Kim Q.B. Leathers (B.A. '83; M.A. '87; Ph.D. '99)
Director of the Honors College and Assistant Professor, Shaw University
Location: Apex, N.C.
The Meeting: Fall 1980 in the Blackburn Center. Both were involved in the Liberal Arts Student
Council and pageants. Terence sang for several of them.
The First Date: Baltimore Harbor, Sunday, July 20, 1986, for dinner and paddle boating

The Why: "We found [that] we were kindred spirits. Both of us were reared in and had a love for the church, so that grounding has kept us focused over the years."

Rey Castillo (B.A. '04)

Officer, U.S. Coast Guard + **Kristanie Castillo (B.A. '03)** Financial Management Consultant, KPMG, LLP **Location:** Miami, Fla. **The Meeting:** Fall 2013 semester in Technical Writing for Pre-Law class. The two were assigned to the same team charged with writing an appellate brief. **The First Date:** Dined and conversed for hours at Rosa Mexicano in Chinatown **The Why:** Rey: "She embodied the qualities held by queens." Kristanie: "His love was gentle yet secure, and he honored [my] essence and divine femininity."





Tory McAlister (B.S. '12) Experimental Testing Manager, Electro Motive Diesel + Michelle McAlister (B.B.A. '12) Brand Manager, Unilever Location: Chicago, Ill. The Meeting: First day of Freshman Week in 2008 in the Annex Courtyard. Fellow floor-mates introduced the two. The First Date: National Mall The Why: "We were in love. ... We got to grow up together at Howard and were excited to continue doing so for the rest of our lives."

Marvin Wooten Jr. (B.S. '07)

System of Support Advisor, Hayfield Secondary School + Safiya Jenkins-Wooten (B.S. '08) Registered Dietitian and Health Educator, Evolent Health Location: New Carrollton, Md. The Meeting: Summer 2005 at the City Sports in Chinatown, where Marvin worked. When Safiya walked into the store seeking a job, Marvin gave her advice and his number. The First Date: National Zoo, pizza at Union Station, and saw the movie "Hustle and Flow" The Why: Safiya: "Strong family values, integrity [and] kind-hearted nature." Marvin: "Kindness, great sense of humor and the joy I felt just being in her presence."

Carlton Uko (B.S. '11)

Athletic Trainer, Medstar NRH + Karissa Uko (B.B.A. '11) Manager, Events and Communications, National Air Transportation Association Location: Arlington, Va. The Meeting: 2008 through a mutual friend in front of Blackburn The First Date: Hiking in their hometown of Pasadena, Calif. The Why: "There is no one reason why we found each other to be 'the one.'... We realize that God has blessed us to find our best friend, and knowing that allows our marriage to remain resilient."

Alex Bean (B.B.A. '04) Senior Accountant, Assurant Inc. + Lauren Bean (B.B.A. '04) Stay-at-Home Mother Location: Atlanta, Ga. The Meeting: Freshman year, August 2000, in Professor Lawson's math class. The First Date: Saw the movie "Exit Wounds" at Union Station and went to McDonald's The Why: Alex: "She was my best friend ... who brought light to my life. The bond we had was one that I felt would last a lifetime." Lauren: "I fell in love with his heart, his character and his spirit. He reminded me of my daddy. ... In him, I found my soulmate."













Robert L. Jenkins Jr., Esq. (B.A. '92) Attorney, Bynum & Jenkins + Dr. Tanek L. Jenkins (B.S. '96; D.D.S. '02) Dentist, ABC Kids Dentistry, LLC Location: Fort Washington, Md. The Meeting: Fall semester, 1992, at a "house party." One of Tanek's girlfriends introduced the two. The First Date: The movies in Georgetown and dinner at Uno's Pizza The Why: "Our similar childhoods resulted in a common value system. ... At some point, we realized that we didn't want to live without one another."

Shaka Hislop (B.S.M.E. '92; E.M.B.A. '13)

On-Air Soccer Analyst, ESPN + Desha Hislop (B.B.A. '93) Stay-at-Home Mother Location: Concord, Mass. The Meeting: January 1989 at a

The Meeting: January 1989 at a Caribbean party off campus. Shaka had been introduced to Desha a couple of times, and finally drummed up the courage to speak to her at the party.

The First Date: Watched a movie at Union Station

The Why: Shaka: "We had a lot in common. We're both from Trinidad & Tobago. I had always been fascinated by her. She made me better, and that just felt right."

CLASS REUNION WEEKEND 2016

Please mark your calendar for the 2016 All Classes Reunion Weekend. This year, we celebrate the following class years: 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011.

We are looking forward to hosting your Class Reunion that is planned for May 5-8. Our host hotel for this year's Class Reunion Weekend is the luxurious Mayflower Hotel, located at 1127 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C., 20036.

To reserve your space for the event, please visit the private booking website at https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb. do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=14468990

Reservations can also be made by calling Reservations toll free at 877-212-5752 or 202-347-3000.

Deadline: The group's cutoff date is April 5.

Contact: El Hadji D. Diagne

For more information, please visit our official Class Reunion Weekend website at www.howard.edu/alumni/reunions

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Class Couples



Darius Lyles (B.A. '07) and Tashira Lyles (B.A. '07)



Chris Randle (B.A. '07; J.D. '11) and **Nicole Randle** (B.S. '08)



Jarvis George (B.A. '99) and Jacquelene Montgomery (B.B.A. '00; J.D. '05)



Ke'Mani Smith (B.S. '02) and Toni Smith (B.B.A. '05)



Paul Malcolm Akil Booker (B.S.E.E. '09) and **Faith Anne Booker** (B.S. '08)



Spencer Gregory Chenier (B.S. '03) and Sheri Renee Frierson-Chenier (B.S. '06; M.Ed. '12)



Brandon Starling (B.S. '07) and Berri Starling (B.B.A. '10)



Jason Walker (B.B.A. '02) and Roshanda Heath Walker (B.A. '01)



D'Vell M. Garrison (B.A. '94) and LaTrease Evans Garrison (B.S. '95)



Lavon Surratt (B.A. '14) and Brittany A.B. Surratt (B.A. '09)



LaMar Wilson Jr. (B.A. '78) and Brigette Rouson (B.A. '79)



Jeremy Odoffin (B.B.A. '11) and Lakaysha Lee-Hill (B.F.A. '10)



Michel Okoh (B.B.A. '08) and Brenda Okoh (B.A. '09)



Wellesley Evans Alexander (M.D. '02) and Patrice Richardson Alexander (B.A. '01)

In Memoriam

,40s

Dr. Walter W. Haynes, D.D.S. 1946,

died May 5, 2015. Upon completing dental school, Haynes served in the Army Dental Corps from 1946–1948 and was discharged as captain. After buying his first home in 1948, Haynes extended the house in 1951 to include a dental office. Haynes retired and sold his dental practice in 1994 and worked in his garden at his last home in Hempstead, N.Y. He was 95.

Charlotte Holloman, B.MUS. 1941,

died July 30, 2015. Holloman's soprano singing voice landed her an operatic and concert career in the 1950s, which later led to her becoming a voice teacher in her hometown of Washington, D.C. After making her Broadway debut in the musical drama "The Barrier," she performed in a number of New York stage plays, before winning a Rockefeller grant in 1961 that allowed her to study her craft in London and Berlin. Holloman spent more than two decades at Howard and was a lecturer at other Washington-area colleges. She was 93.

Suzanne E. Vaughn, F.H. DIP N

1945, died Feb. 23, 2015. After graduating from the Freedman's Hospital of Nursing (now Howard University), Vaughn attended the University of Pennsylvania, where she earned a bachelor's degree in nursing. Vaughn worked for Mercy Douglass Hospital, the Pennsylvania Hospital for Contagious Diseases, Byberry State Hospital, the Youth Study Center and ended her working career at the Zion Home for Retired Persons. She was 92.



Justice Leander J. Shaw, LL.B. 1957, died December 14, 2015. Justice Shaw was a member of the Florida Supreme Court during the Florida recount of the 2000 presidential election. He was one of two Howard University alumni serving on the court at that time. In an interview with the law school's magazine, *The Jurist*, Justice Shaw said in 2001 that the "disputed election" caused voting systems to be "scrutinized" and that scrutiny would

lead to major changes in the voting processes. "Had the election not been close, these things would never have been fixed," he said. Justice Shaw also said that lawyers should be "problem-solvers," and he cited, as an example, restoring voting rights to ex-felons. A little known fact he shared with *The Jurist* was that he was on the list of potential candidates to fill retiring Justice Thurgood Marshall's seat on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Justice Shaw served as chief justice of the Florida Supreme Court from 1990 to 1992. He retired from the court in 2003. Before his appointment to the Florida Supreme Court, Justice Shaw was also a law professor at Florida A&M University, an assistant state's attorney and a judge on the First District Court of Appeals.

Justice Shaw's 1957 law school mural photo lists him as Leander Jerry Shaw, Lexington, Va. An official portrait of Justice Shaw hangs on the first level of Houston Hall.

'60s

Leon C. Armour Sr., B.S. 1963,

died Aug. 3, 2015. Following graduation, Armour was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force. His 25-year career in the Air Force yielded Armour command and staff positions—15 of those positions as a navigator flying reconnaissance, transport and fighter aircraft. By retirement, Armour had more than 3,500 flying hours and combat missions in Vietnam. He then worked for the U.S. Department of Defense for 20 years as a contractor. He retired in 2008 as lieutenant colonel. Armour was a life member of the Tuskegee Airmen Inc. and the Air Force Association. He was 75.

Marian L. Etheridge, F.H. DIP N 1960, died May 3, 2015.

Col. John W. Huguley III, B.S. 1963; M.D. 1974, died Aug. 4, 2015. Huguley was a retired colonel from the United States Army. He was 73.



Willie Gadson, B.S.P. 1971, died May 28, 2015. For more than 37 years, Gadson worked as a hospital pharmacist, serving Norfolk Community Hospital, DePaul Hospital, and Maryview Hospital, where he retired in 2012. He was 70.

Daniel W. Jackson, B.A. 1970,

died June 13, 2015. Jackson's more than 40-year career as a businessman included positions with Dow Chemical, Xerox Corporation, Owens and Minor, Metropolitan Medical and Acuity Medical Supply Company. He mentored youth and adults through various athletic, church and self-help programs in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Jackson was 69.

G. Daniel Jones, D.MI. 1978, died May 27, 2015. Following graduation, Jones became the pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Germantown, Pa., from 1982–2013. He then became interim pastor of Zion Baptist in March 2015. A teacher and mentor, Jones began his professional career as a math teacher in Plymouth County, Mass., served on the Portsmouth School Board and was an adjunct professor at the Lutheran Theological Seminary. He was 74.

Andrea Kidd-Taylor, B.S. 1976,

died Sept. 1, 2014. She was a lecturer at the Morgan State University School of Community Health and Policy. During the Clinton administration, Kidd-Taylor served in presidential-appointed positions as a member of the Chemical Safety Board and the Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses and as a health representative on the National Advisory Committee on Occupational Health. Previously, she served as an industrial hygienist for the United Auto Workers and as board member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters' Board on Safety and Health. Kidd-Taylor was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She was 59.

Tracey Pinson, B.A. 1978, died Dec. 14, 2014. From 1982-1986, Pinson served as counsel to the Committee on Small Business in the U.S. House of Representatives. She then served as assistant to the director with the Office of Small Business Programs. During her time there, she served as the program manager of the Department of Defense with the Small Disadvantaged Business Program and the Minority Institutions Program. Pinson developed the implementation strategy for the Department of Defense's Mentor Protégé Program. In 1995, the secretary of the Army appointed Pinson director of the Office of Small Business Programs. She was 57.

James A. Koger, B.S.C.E. 1975,

died Oct. 1, 2015. Koger served in the Vietnam War as a teletype operator and was honorably discharged from the United States Army in 1967. After graduating from Howard, Koger moved to Los Angeles, Calif., to work for an engineering company. Koger then started his own company, JaKoger Professional Engineering Consulting. Koger later travelled to Ghana and Paris, France, after 30 years of operating his company. He enjoyed listening to jazz, symphonies, and classical music. He was 70.

'80s

Edward Morgan III, D. M.I. 1981,

died July 25, 2015. A Navy veteran of World War II, Morgan began his ministry in the Episcopal Church. After 26 years as a parish rector, he served as a professor of pastoral theology and director of the field education program at the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Va. He enjoyed photography and tennis. He was 79.

Richard Cornish Martin, D. M.I.

1988, died June 27, 2015. Martin continued his education taking courses in England and Jamaica. He was ordained into the Diaconate in 1961, and to the Priesthood in 1962. He began his ministry as Episcopal Chaplain to Pennsylvania State University as well as Associate Rector for St. Andrew's Church in State College, Penn. Martin later served as the episcopal chaplain for George Washington University, as well as assistant at St. Paul's Parish on K Street, in Washington, D.C.

90s

Erika Robyn White Mushala, B.S. 1993, died Apr. 21, 2015. After graduating, White Mushala taught at Beltsville Academic Center in Beltsville, Md., for 22 years. A lifelong learner, she completed additional coursework at Bowie State University. She was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She was 44.

'00s

Margaret Kargbo, B.A. 2002, died May 20, 2015. Following graduation, Kargbo moved to Atlanta to become a young arts professional and community activist. From 2007-2011, she handled public relations for the National Black Arts Festival. She was the public affairs director of the nonprofit organization Women Engaged, which aims to help women be more involved in the political process. Kargbo was founding member of The Ladies Board, a social and charitable organization that aims to connect women of African descent; steering committee member at Idea Capital, which sponsors grants for Atlanta artists; and board member at WRFG radio. She was 36.

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LEADING THE PACK

Howard University sits in the #1 seat in the nation of undergraduate institutions supplying Black applicants to U.S. medical schools, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges.

