

# Inside MOREHOUSE

A CAMPUS NEWSLETTER FOR FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS

INSIDE MOREHOUSE, FEBRUARY 2010

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Weldon Jackson '72 returns to Morehouse as provost



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See Founder's Day Observance Calendar for week of events

## Founder's Day 2010

Morehouse Celebrates its 143rd Year with Symposia, Concerts and Gala

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.



Ronald Sullivan Jr. '89 Perry Henderson, MD '54 Julius Coles '63 Lonnie C. King '69 Lloyd Dean Freeman Hrabowski III Antonio "L.A." Reid

Discussions about fatherhood, healthy families and black men; a Founder's Day speech by the president of the United Negro College Fund; a concert by one of jazz's leading songbirds; and the annual "A Candle in the Dark" Gala highlight the College's 143rd Founder's Day Observance, Feb. 9-14.

"This year takes on special meaning with symposiums, a impactful town hall meeting and our Founder's Day Convocation, a wonderful concert featuring Lalah Hathaway and, of course, our gala honorees," said Henry Goodgame '84, director of Alumni Relations, Special Events and Annual Giving.

Obie Clayton, executive director of the Morehouse Research Initiative will moderate the Founder's Day Town Hall Meeting, "Pathways Out of Poverty to Opportunities: Fatherhood and Healthy Families," on Feb. 9 in the Bank of America Auditorium in the Executive Conference Center. Higher education's shifting gender balance, health disparities, incarceration of African American men and civic disengagement will be the topics touched on by five speakers from across the nation.

The 2nd Annual Founder's Day Symposium, moderated by psychology professor David Wall Rice '95 on Feb. 10, will feature an array of speakers and panelists who will talk about

machismo, gender liberation and other issues as they debate myths and realities of the 21st Century black male.

UNCF president Michael Lomax '68 will deliver the keynote speech during the Founder's Day Convocation in the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel on Feb. 11. Renowned research scientist August Curley '50 will be presented a Presidential Citation in honor of his successful career.

The week takes a romantic tone when songstress Lalah Hathaway graces the King Chapel stage for the Founder's Day Concert on Feb. 12 at 8 p.m. Emceed by poet Hank Stewart, the evening also will feature the

lush saxophone of Antonio Allen. Saturday, Feb. 13, students will get their chance to hear from the Bennie and Candle Award recipients as they talk about their careers during "Reflections of Excellence" in Sale Hall's Chapel for the Inward Journey at 11 a.m. Richelle Carey, an anchor at cable television's HLN, will moderate the discussion.

That evening at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta, the seven men who have made their marks in fields such as music, medicine, education and civil rights will be honored during the elegant 22nd "A Candle in the Dark" Gala for their exceptional success in their respective fields. Those men are:

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## Construction of the Center for the Arts Will Be Finished this Spring

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.



Morehouse College Center for the Arts

The finishing touches are being put on the campus' gleaming, new Morehouse Center for the Arts, which will be completed

this spring. The two-story, 75,000-square-foot building, which will house the Music Department, the

Morehouse "House of Funk" Marching Band, the Jazz Ensemble and the Morehouse College Glee Club, contain state-of-the-art offices, instrument storage areas, classrooms, an outdoor amphitheater for 200 people and a 650-seat Ray Charles Performance Hall.

The building's academic wing will be completed in March with the performance hall being finished by the end of April. Andre Bertrand '76 vice president for Campus Operations said departments will begin moving into the building this summer.

The project was seeded with a \$2-million donation by legendary musician, the late Ray Charles. The second largest donor to the project was Charles' trusted friend and business partner, Joe Adams who gave \$1 million.

"We were also able to include architectural elements in this facility that mirrors some of the architectural artistry of the historic quad - Graves Hall and Sale Hall, for example," said Bertrand. "I'm very proud of the fact that we were able to accomplish a similar standard of architectural beauty."

"Our hope is to bring this sort of architectural character to the center campus, with respect to the other academic buildings," he said.

Bertrand said that building an intercampus student center, adding more suite style housing to replace the older, traditional residence halls and addressing some of the older academic buildings on campus are now future projects in the College's Master Plan.

## College's History to Be Told in 150th Morehouse Anniversary History Project

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

With the College's 150th anniversary approaching in 2017, work has begun to gather, update, retell and preserve Morehouse's rich history.

Led by Marcellus Barksdale '65, chairman of the African American Studies program, the 150th Morehouse Anniversary History Project is a multi-pronged effort using several different ways to collect and tell the Morehouse story.

"Our work will leave a legacy for generations of Morehouse Men, scholars and friends that will stand the test of time and inform the future history of Morehouse," Barksdale said.

A new scholarly history about Morehouse College is being written, building on earlier books written for the College's 50th anniversary, History of Morehouse by Benjamin G. Brawley, and the 100th anniversary tribute, A Candle in the Dark, A History of Morehouse College by Edward A. Jones.

The anthological history of Morehouse will be told by writers, from the expertise they've gained from their fields of study in disciplines such as medicine, politics, religion and business.

Documents, such as charters, by-laws and blueprints, from the past 150 years will be pulled together so they can shape their own historical tome about Morehouse. A coffee table book, featuring pictures, graphics, prose and poetry, will give an illustrated history of the College.

The papers of alumni will be compiled for an archival history, told through the College's graduates. Alumni are being surveyed for their willingness to donate their papers to a free-standing archive that will be built on the campus. An oral history also is being compiled, with students conducting the interviews. ■

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Inside Morehouse is about the people who make up the Morehouse College community. To tell those stories, **WE NEED YOU** to send us your ideas, comments and thoughts, along with your news, information about your new books or publications and your commentary for sections like My Word. To send us your information, contact Inside Morehouse Editor Add Seymour Jr. at [aseymour@morehouse.edu](mailto:aseymour@morehouse.edu)

For more up-to-the minute information about academic departments, administration, athletics, registration, financial aid, as well as the people and places at Morehouse College, go to

[www.morehouse.edu](http://www.morehouse.edu)

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## Greetings from President Robert M. Franklin '75

Dear Morehouse Alumni, Parents and Friends:

As we gather to celebrate the founding of the College, I am pleased to welcome all Morehouse stakeholders back to campus for Founder's Week 2010. This week will undoubtedly be a time for renewing and establishing friendships. It will also be a wonderful opportunity for reconnecting with an institution that is dedicated to developing the minds and character of young men throughout the globe.

One of the oldest historically black institutions for higher education, Morehouse is known for providing a first class education, coupled with a rich co-curricular experience unparalleled by other institutions. We have earned rightfully the distinction of being one of the best schools for balancing rigor in the classroom with a diversity of opportunities to learn and practice leadership in the community. Although great leaders are known for their humility, we are pardonably proud of what Morehouse Men are doing in their local communities and around the globe.

It should be a source of pride to all people that Morehouse has weathered 143 years of history and has extraordinary achievements to show for it. This week, we celebrate excellence, not merely endurance. That said, we acknowledge that we can be better and we will never stop trying to improve. Despite the past two years of global economic recession, we have maintained quality while reducing costs and improving efficiency. I offer a special heartfelt thanks to the many alumni, parents, and friends who have given generously to enable us to bridge this challenging period. You should know that your gifts and sacrifices will allow current students to cross the academic finish line.

Thanks to you, future generations of promising young men will share in the Morehouse legacy of excellence.

It is my hope that you will take advantage of the many opportunities to engage in our Founder's Day Observance and that you will renew your commitment to be involved in the life of Morehouse in the future.

Remember the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we know we could be."

Welcome, and enjoy!



*Robert M. Franklin*

Robert M. Franklin '75  
President

(continued from cover story)

**Ronald Sullivan Jr. '89** is a distinguished professor of law and the director of the Harvard University Criminal Justice Institute. Aside from being one of the nation's leading theorists in criminal law, criminal procedure, legal ethics and race theory, Sullivan is a noted commentator on various legal issues, with his opinions appearing in publications such as *The Washington Post*.

**Perry Henderson, MD '54** who was a renowned and respected professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School for nearly 30 years. But he, and his wife Virginia, have also made indelible impressions in the Madison community with their service, volunteerism and philanthropy.

**Julius Coles '63** is an internationally respected career minister and Foreign Service officer and the immediate past president of the Washington, D.C.-based Africare. Coles was also director of the Morehouse College Andrew Young Center for International Affairs from 1997-2002 and director of Howard University's Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center from 1994-1997.

**Lonnie C. King '69** became a leader in the civil rights movement as a student at Morehouse. In 1960, he led a series of sit-ins that led to the desegregation of public places throughout Atlanta. Among his rich movement history, he was a founding member and first chairman of the influential Student Non-Violent Coordinating

Committee. Now a long-time educator, King has taught history and social studies to college and public school students.

**Lloyd Dean** leads one of the nation's largest health care systems, Catholic Healthcare West, in San Francisco. His management of the facility brought the system out of a three-year financial hole to being an \$11-billion system with 41 hospitals, 8,500 physicians and 53,000 employees. Dean, a vocal proponent of health care reform, has been named one of the nation's top minority health care executives and one of the most powerful people in health care.

**Freeman Hrabowski III** marched for civil rights as a child and was featured in the Spike Lee '79 docu-

mentary, "Four Little Girls." The film chronicled the bombing of a Birmingham church that killed four girls, one Hrabowski's class mate. Hrabowski has made his mark as president of the University of Maryland-Baltimore County, where he has turned a small commuter school into one of the nation's leading feeders of minority students in graduate science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs.

**Antonio "L.A." Reid** is chairman of Island Def Jam Music Group and is one of the most powerful and respected executives in the music industry. The Cleveland, Ohio, native went from songwriting success with former band mate Kenny "Babyface"

Edmonds to becoming CEO of the legendary LaFace Records. Reid has shepherded the careers of music stalwarts such as Usher, TLC, Mariah Carey, Pink and Rihanna.

### WORSHIP SERVICE

The Rev. Kenneth Flowers '83, pastor of Detroit's Greater New Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church is giving the keynote for the annual Founder's Day Worship Service on Sunday, Feb. 14, in the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel at 11 a.m. The final event of the week will be the Morehouse College Glee Club's Annual Spring Concert, celebrating the Glee Club's 99th anniversary. The concert, free and open to the public, will be held at 4 p.m. in King Chapel.

INSIDE MOREHOUSE, FEBRUARY 2010

## Students Inspired Art Professor Louis Delsarte's King Mural

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

**M**orehouse art professor Louis Delsarte's new mural, depicting the life of Martin Luther King Jr. '48, has the students he teaches at Morehouse as its inspiration.

"The students are the future leaders and heroes," Delsarte said. "This is what Dr. King's legacy is about and what this memorial is all about."

Delsarte's mural, titled "Dreams, Visions and Change," is a colorful, 125-foot, 25-panel pictorial history honoring King and his journey from growing up on Auburn Avenue, to studying at Morehouse to becoming the world's pre-eminent civil rights leader in the non-violent civil

rights movement.

The breathtaking mural took Delsarte and a cadre of volunteers two years to complete.

"My mural depicts Dr. King in the light that he so richly deserves," he said. "His sacrifice has moved me as an artist and as an American. I wanted the mural to reflect the peace, despite the turbulence. The colors are reflective of the hold of promise...at the end of the rainbow."

Commissioned by the city of Atlanta, the mural was dedicated during a ceremony on Jan. 17 at the Martin Luther King Jr. Natatorium, just a block away from King's birth home and across the street from The King

Center, where he is entombed. The mural is spread across a significant portion of the Natatorium's wall.

"Great cities have great art and have great artwork," said Mayor Kasim Reed. "Today, we have both in both the piece of work we have here and the artist who sits with us."

Terry Mills, dean of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, said Delsarte's work reflects not only his dedication to his craft, but also his ability to see through the world's negativity.

"Louis is a true artist and is true to his art," he said. "We are indeed very proud of you and



we're very proud to have you as a member of the Morehouse College faculty and teaching our young men about the importance of art." ■

**Art professor Louis Delsarte and President Robert M. Franklin '75 view the Morehouse panel in Delsarte's 25-panel, 125-foot mural depicting the life of Martin Luther King Jr. '48.**

## Jackson Answers Presidential Call and Returns to His Alma Mater as Provost

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

Leaving the tiny, rural farming town of Greensboro, Ga., wasn't a problem for a teenaged Weldon Jackson '72.

Neither was figuring out where he was going to college.

"I had four teachers who graduated from Morehouse," Jackson said. "I was definitely influenced by them."

Life has come full circle as Jackson has returned to Morehouse, though not in the way he thought he would when Jackson first entered Morehouse — he wanted to be the black version of famed criminal defense attorney F. Lee Bailey.

Jackson is now the College's provost and senior vice president



Weldon Jackson '72

for Academic Affairs.

"I've come back to a place that meant so much and did so much for me," Jackson said. "To be giv-

ing the same kinds of things to young men [at his alma mater] is simply rewarding and satisfying."

Though Jackson has enjoyed a successful career as a professor and administrator, he came to Morehouse hoping to be an attorney. He changed his mind during his freshman year and thought about becoming a doctor.

The academia bug bit Jackson during his sophomore year when, as a political science major under the tutelage of professors Tobe Johnson, Abraham Davis and Robert Brisbane, he saw his future.

"While most of my classmates were going to law school, academia became my fascina-

tion," he said.

He earned his doctorate at Harvard and then taught at Wellesley College for nine years. Then he got a call from former president Hugh Gloster '31.

"I had just gotten tenure at Wellesley when Dr. Gloster called and asked me to come back," Jackson said. "There was no hesitation."

Jackson became the College's vice president for Academic Affairs, a position he held from 1985 to 1996. He left Morehouse for Manhattan in 1996.

He got another presidential phone call last year, this time from President Robert M. Franklin '75.

"An accomplished political scientist and academic administrator, Dr. Jackson will play a critical role in advancing the Renaissance at Morehouse College," Franklin said.

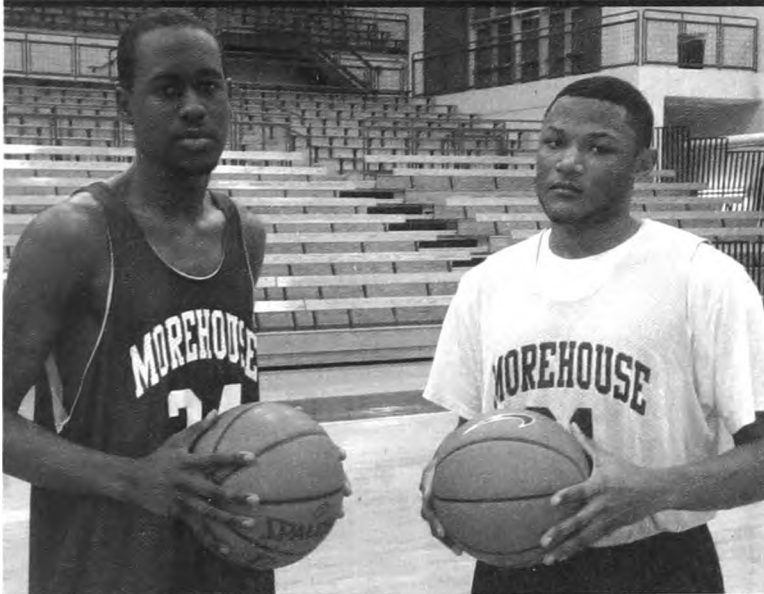
Jackson's main goal is to raise the College's academic reputation even higher.

"I'd like to see that the world knows about us, especially in terms of educating black men," he said. "I'd also like to see more of our men going to graduate school. But more than anything, I'd really like for us to not only be recognized as a first rate historically black college, but as one of the best in the world. And that is possible." ■

## Professional Pedigree

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

## Maroon Tigers Curry and Williams Carry on Famous Fathers' Basketball Success



Reggie Williams Jr. and Michael Curry Jr.

At first glance, the Morehouse Maroon Tigers basketball team has a couple of old college and professional stars on the roster.

Wearing number 34 is Reggie

Williams and sporting number 21 is Michael Curry.

But the two Maroon Tigers are actually the sons of the former college and NBA stars of the same names.

Williams, a sophomore, is the son of Reggie Williams, a smooth-shooting forward who starred at Georgetown in the 1980s before playing 10 seasons in the NBA. He now coaches high school basketball in Towson, Md.

Curry's father, is an Augusta, Ga., native who played college basketball at Georgia Southern. He was a defensive specialist in the NBA, where he played for 11 years. He went on to become an NBA assistant coach and for one season was the head coach of the Detroit Pistons.

"Great pedigree," said Maroon Tigers head coach Grady Brewer.

"That's what you look for," he said. "You're looking for players who have a familiarity with what you're trying to do as a coach. It's a plus having kids

from parents who were great in college and the NBA."

Both players said having famous basketball fathers bring some pressure.

"At first it was intimidating because most places I went, they expected me to play like my dad," said Reggie Williams Jr. "I feel like every time I step on the court, the coach knows of my dad but he expects me to do this, that and the other because he's seen my dad do this, that and the other. So it's kind of a give and take. I want to live up to that and be better, but sometimes it's overwhelming to try to live up to what my father did in college."

Freshman Michael Curry agreed.

"After a while you get used to it, but it's different because everybody knows who you are, and the fans will try to get into your

head," he said. "It's a little bit harder, but eventually you get used to it."

The two, who physically favor their fathers, have become friends, linked by their common backgrounds.

On the court, Williams is the team's top sixth man while Curry provides defense and stability off the bench.

Both love basketball and the pressures that come with it. But the two are just as focused on academics. Williams is a sociology major while Curry, who has a passion for creative writing, is a business management major and plans to get a doctoral degree.

"These are two very good young men, very nice young men who we think will develop into some really nice basketball players," Brewer said. "We've got two good finds in these young guys." ■

## 143RD FOUNDER'S WEEK/PARENTS WEEKEND FEBRUARY 9-14, 2010

### TUESDAY, 9TH

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Founder's Day Town Hall Meeting**  
"Pathways Out of Poverty to Opportunities:  
Fatherhood and Healthy Families"

Moderated by Obie Clayton,  
Executive Director, Morehouse Research Institute  
Bank of America Auditorium,  
Executive Conference Center



Michael Lomax

### WEDNESDAY, 10TH

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Founder's Day Symposium, "Black Men in the 21st  
Century: Myths, Data and Reality"**

Bank of America Auditorium,  
Executive Conference Center

### THURSDAY, 11TH

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Family Weekend Registration**

Faculty Lounge, Thomas Kilgore Campus Center

10:45 a.m.

**Founder's Day Convocation**

Speaker: Michael Lomax '68

President of the United Negro College Fund

Presidential Citation Recipient:

August Curley '50, Research Scientist

Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel

Noon

**Founder's Day Cake Cutting Ceremony and  
Family Luncheon**

Chivers Dining Hall

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**Parents Weekend Opening Assembly**

Introduction of Academic Deans, Provost and

Student Services Staff

Frederick Douglass Hall

5 – 6:30 p.m.

**Discover Your Ancestry Workshop**

Frederick Douglass Hall

### FRIDAY, 12TH

9 a.m. – Noon

**Family Weekend Registration**

Faculty Lounge, Thomas Kilgore Campus Center

9:30 – 11 a.m.

**A Parent's Guide to Supporting Your Son's Success**

Chapel for the Inward Journey, Sale Hall

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**International Renaissance Luncheon**

Chivers Dining Hall Annex

Noon – 2 p.m.

**The Ladies Luncheon**

Hosted by First Lady Dr. Cheryl Franklin

191 Club

2 – 4 p.m.

**Parents Association Meeting**

Seminar Rooms, Kilgore Campus Center



Lalah Hathaway



Richelle Carey



James Pickens



Vanessa Bell Calloway

4 – 5:30 p.m.

**President's Reception, "Taste of the World"**  
Snack Bar, Kilgore Campus Center

6 – 7:30 p.m.

**Key Supporters Reception**

Sponsored by The Coca-Cola Company

African American Hall of Fame

Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel

8 – 10 p.m.

**Founder's Day Concert**

Sponsored by Google

Featuring Lalah Hathaway;

Emcee: Poet Hank Stewart

Special performance by jazz saxophonist

Antonio Allen

Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel

9 – 11 a.m.

**Parents Association Meeting**

Chapel for the Inward Journey, Sale Hall

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Reflections of Excellence**

Featuring the 2010 "Bennie" and "Candle" Award

recipients discussing their lives,

goals and accomplishments

Moderator: Richelle Carey, Anchor, HLN

Chapel for the Inward Journey, Sale Hall

1 – 3 p.m.

**Morehouse Alumni Health Professionals Summit**

Leadership Center

2 p.m.

**Basketball Game**

Morehouse vs. Clark Atlanta University

Franklin L. Forbes Arena

**22ND "A Candle in the Dark" Gala**

6 – 7 p.m.

**VIP Reception,**

Regency VI Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Atlanta

6:30 p.m.

**Cocktails-General Reception**

Centennial Ballroom Lobby,

Hyatt Regency Atlanta

7 p.m.

**Dinner, Dancing and Awards Gala**

Emcees: Actress Vanessa Bell Calloway and

Actor James Pickens

Centennial Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Atlanta

### SUNDAY, 14TH

11 a.m.

**Founder's Day Sunday Worship Service**

Speaker: The Rev. Kenneth J. Flowers '83,

Pastor, Greater New Mt. Moriah Missionary

Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.

Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel

4 p.m.

**Morehouse College Glee Club Concert**

Celebrating the Glee Club's 99th Anniversary

Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel