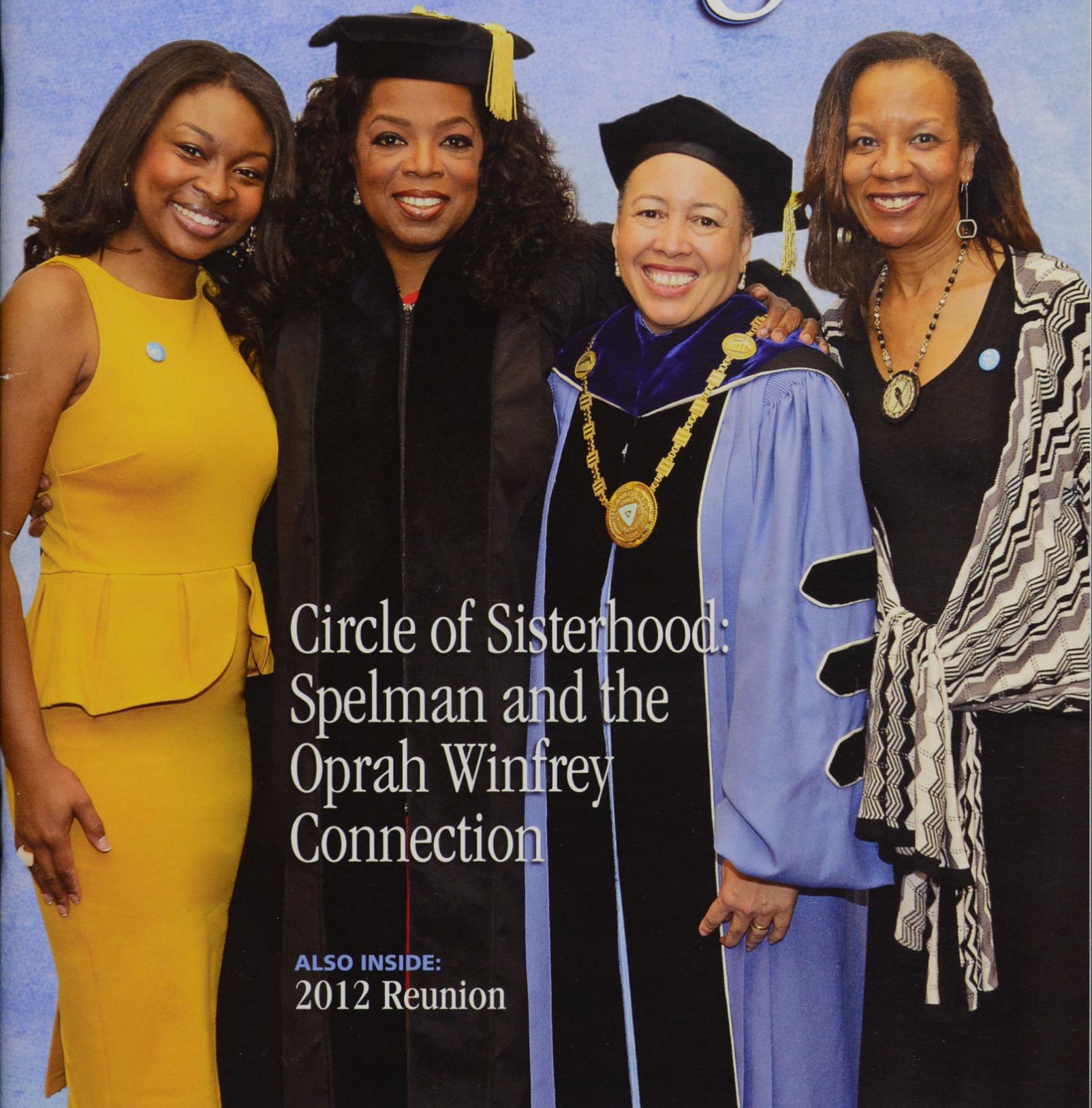


Spelman Messenger



Circle of Sisterhood:
Spelman and the
Oprah Winfrey
Connection

ALSO INSIDE:
2012 Reunion



Spelman College

A Choice to Change the World

SPELMAN

Messenger

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Alumnae Notes is dedicated to the following:

- Education (advanced degree)
- Personal (birth of a child or marriage)
- Professional

Please include the date of the event in your submission.

TAKE NOTE!

Take Note! is dedicated to the following alumnae achievements:

- Published
- Appearing in films, television or on stage
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For verification purposes, please include a printed program, newspaper acknowledgment or electronic link with your submission.

CREDO

The Spelman Messenger, founded in 1885, is dedicated to participating in the ongoing education of our readers through enlightening articles designed to promote lifelong learning. The Spelman Messenger is the alumnae magazine of Spelman College and is committed to educating, serving and empowering Black women.



SPELMAN Messenger

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ON THE COVER

*Circle of Sisterhood:
Spelman and the Oprah Winfrey Connection*

Pictured on the cover: Oprah Winfrey (second from left) with her staff members Pier Smith, C'2006 (far left), Angelique McFarland, C'82 (far right), and President Beverly Daniel Tatum



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A Pre-Commencement Conversation With Oprah



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A Pre-Commencement Conversation With Oprah

Oprah Offers Hard-Won Wisdom to Graduates



PHOTO: J. D. SCOTT

On May 19th, 2012, on center stage in Sisters Chapel, President Beverly Daniel Tatum held a candid conversation with Oprah Winfrey. In a question and answer session in front of the Class of 2012 and other members of the Spelman community, Oprah shared her thoughts, experiences and advice. Here are excerpts from that conversation.

President Tatum: This weekend is about transition, especially for the class of 2012. As you know, tomorrow is commencement. Do you have any advice for the class of 2012 about transitions?

Oprah: I would say for any transition, the most important thing is to always be grounded in who you really are. The reason why I've had success is because I've been grounded in the spirit and

breath of my ancestors. Those are not just words for me, those are not just poems for me, that's not just a way of speaking for me, it is the truth of who I am.

I know where I come from, and I am and have constantly been in touch with the spirit of that. So, since I was seven and eight years old, I have been reciting the poems and the work of Mary McLeod Bethune and Fannie Lou Hamer and Nikki Giovanni and Maya Angelou. I grew

up understanding that where I came from was something greater than me, so I was not concerned about the transition [ending “The Oprah Winfrey Show” after 25 years] as you all should not be concerned about your transition. It’s exciting.

It’s exciting to be able to step out on the faith and the truth of who you are, and when you are grounded in something that is real you don’t ever really get too scared. You’re grounded

It’s exciting to be able to step out on the faith and the truth of who you are, and when you are grounded in something that is real you don’t ever really get too scared.



PHOTO: J. D. SCOTT

in something that is bigger than yourself and you’re not just trying to rely on your personality and your will. Know that where you come from is bigger than anything you can imagine – even in your deepest prayers.

I see that we all come to the planet with a purpose and a calling. Your real job is to figure out what that is, and Spelman is a part of helping you to figure that out. And, even when you finish, you still might not have completely figured it out. What I did when I finished college was just a stepping stone to where I am today. What I learned is that there really aren’t any mistakes if every time you make a wrong turn you learn how to make a right one. And many times the wrong turns, particularly in transitions, help you figure out that you are going the wrong way.

My advice is always to come back to who

you really are and what that means in the deepest, most profound and spiritual sense of the word – meaning all the people that have come before you that made your life possible. And, think about literally all the prayers that have been prayed for [this] day that your grandfathers, and grandmothers and ancestors could not have even imagined possible. Think about that for a minute. I think about it all of the time.

I still have great appreciation for every single thing that happens to me. Living in the space of gratitude regardless of whatever is going on in your life changes everything. If you’re able to look at just what it took for you to be you – not just your mother’s sacrifices and your father’s or what they did or didn’t do for you but the lives that had to be a force of nature in order for you to be able to be who you are. It’s really incredible.

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President Tatum: How do you center yourself?

Oprah: Before I open my eyes and start that whole process of doing, the first thing I want on my heart and in spirit is thank you. Thank you that even before I open my eyes and get out of bed that as the old folks used to say, "I'm clothed in my right mind."

I have a specific prayer chair that I go to. I try to spend at least a minute. If I were teaching, I would say you need 20 minutes a day, but sometimes you don't have 20 minutes a day. I try to have the first minute of my waking consciousness be given over to spirit and I try to spend at least a minute, five minutes, 10 minutes sometimes, where I am in the space of silence so that I can receive what it is that I'm supposed to receive.

I would say that the secret to my success is that I center first and I also know what the real source of my power is. And, so because I know what the real source is, I really do know that I am untouchable. I don't mean by the world's standards, I mean by the standards of what really matters, that I just cannot and will not be defeated – not ever. And, the reason is that I understand that I am the breath of the ancestors, and I understand that the spirit of me comes directly from the spirit of this entity, this force field we call God. That is exactly where we all come from and the only thing you have to do in life is to really know that. Every breath of you, every fiber of you, every cell of you truly understands that the source that created the storms, that the source that built the mountains, that the source that controls the oceans is the same source that put the egg and the sperm together.

Unless I give myself the time to be silent and to connect to the source, then the day just goes where the day will go, and I am ordered by the day and I'm not ordering the day. I run a network, I've been on TV for 25 years. I don't pay attention to TV, I rarely watch it. It takes so much energy for me to give of myself to the world the way that I choose to do that I don't have time to bring in a lot of outside imaging. I protect myself from external energies that I don't want to be a part of my consciousness.

President Tatum: One of the things we talk about here at Spelman is sustainability – environmental and personal. We are very concerned

about the health disparities affecting Black women and also the prediction that the surgeon general has made that this generation of young people is likely to live a shorter life span than its parents because of poor lifestyle choices around nutrition, around exercise. These are things you've talked a lot about on your magazine and your television show on the network.

Oprah: It's all about your connection to the source. I've started to lose weight again and it's exciting, but exciting because for me the path this time is not about the diet. I get up in the morning and exercise for an hour. You have to. For years, I believed I could get away without it. You just can't. You may when you're 18, 19, 20, but it will catch up with you. You've got to put in the physical hours but the physical hours aren't enough.

So what I now know to be true is that any problem that you have, any disagreement with your external is all about the dysfunction within your internal self and it's all in direct proportion to how you are connected to the source. For probably the past five or six years of the Oprah Show, I absolutely went numb because the level of the intense expectation and work and juggling all of my different businesses at one time and the energy required to actually be onstage twice a day, give of yourself to hundreds of people who've come across the country and to give it in such a way that the millions of people who are going to see you around the world know that you're 100 percent on. You can never ever have a bad day, you can have a bad hair day, but you can never not be your best. I blew out my thyroid in 2007 and had hyperthyroidism where I suddenly lost all this weight and I thought, oh my God, I finally figured it out – I can eat pizza at midnight and still lose weight. In fact, it was my thyroid that just blew and it took me another year and a half – almost two years – to figure out that's what was happening.

It [lack of connection] shows up in your health, your inability to sustain a balance that is required to be a solid human being. It will show up in your life, it will show up in your work if you are not working from the core. It's amazing, when I now look back at what I did for 25 years every day and never missed a day. I blew out my thyroid around the time I was building a school in South Africa – I'm so excited three of my girls



My greatest advice to you is that when you do and do and do, and do not allow enough time to be, eventually you will not be able to sustain it. Because life is about the being.

are coming to Spelman – but I was running the show, trying to do a school 8,000 miles away, and I was running radio. I had started a radio channel and also running a magazine. I mean literally just too much, but if you would have asked me if it was too much I wouldn't have said it was too much because I just kept doing and doing and doing.

My greatest advice to you is that when you do and do and do, and do not allow enough time to *be*, eventually you will not be able to sustain it. Because life is about the *being*. And about using the being in order to further the doing but first you have to *be*. There is no advice greater than when you're in trouble to be still and know that I am God. You have to get still in order to hear it. ...

So, sustainability to me is in direct proportion to how connected you are to the source of all things and your ability to sustain – whether it be in your work, your health, your caring for your value in the world – is all about being connected to that part of you that knows really truly where you come from.

President Tatum: Recently Thomas Friedman, *New York Times* columnist, wrote an op-ed titled “Average Is Over,” in which he said that there was a time when you could just be an average person, have an average job and still have an average comfortable middle class lifestyle, but in the world of globalization and with increased competition today, you can't be average, that you have to bring something special to the table. I know that you have hired a number of Spelman women in your organization and I'm wondering if you could talk a little bit about what you look for when you're adding someone to your team.

Oprah: Well, I don't look for average. It's just never ever been a part of me to do anything that was average. When I was younger than you, I think I was 16, I heard Jesse Jackson speak at an assembly at our high school. Jesse Jackson said that excellence is the best deterrent to racism – therefore be excellent; excellence is the best deterrent to sexism – so be excellent. I went home and I wrote that and I put that on my mirror. The reason why you have an “aha” moment is because you already know it. It resonates.

Book Reviews

ANGELA BROWN TERRELL

An Angry-Ass Black Woman

by Karen E. Quinones Miller
(Gallery Books/Karen Hunter Publishing)

The title tells it all: She's angry and not going to take it any more – whatever "it" is.

Karen Quinones Miller's semi-autobiographical novel takes the reader on a ride through New York City's gritty, urban scene, as lived by thousands of poverty-stricken dwellers. It's a story that's filled with hunger, anger, love and unfilled dreams. It's also the story of survival and hope. And this life makes some people very, very angry.

Such is the case of the protagonist Ke-Ke (say "Kay-Kay," please!), who is born with her twin sister, Kitty, in Harlem in 1958. From a cold, concrete-walled basement apartment that is "... freezing. I guess because the rats had fur coats they aint care," to a move upstairs to an apartment without rats, but with "mice, and of course, roaches," life continues to try to degrade the family.

Her mother was forced to make ends meet by collecting welfare and working "off the books" in a real estate office, to care for her four children. "... welfare aint give nobody enough money to survive in those days," Ke-Ke says. Her father wasn't much help, she says. "Joe-Joe was a sweet guy and a f...ing wimp. He was a ninth-grade dropout with an

I.Q. of 215, and he became a raving lunatic because of it."

The family saga continues, plagued by exposure to drugs, mental illness, gangs, unconcerned social workers and schools. Yet, through it all, some successes are achieved through the strength that comes from a loving mother who holds the family together, and a father whose intelligence causes him to infuse his children with a strong desire to learn about a world beyond their mean streets, as described in Piri Thomas' 1967 classic, *Down These Mean Streets*.

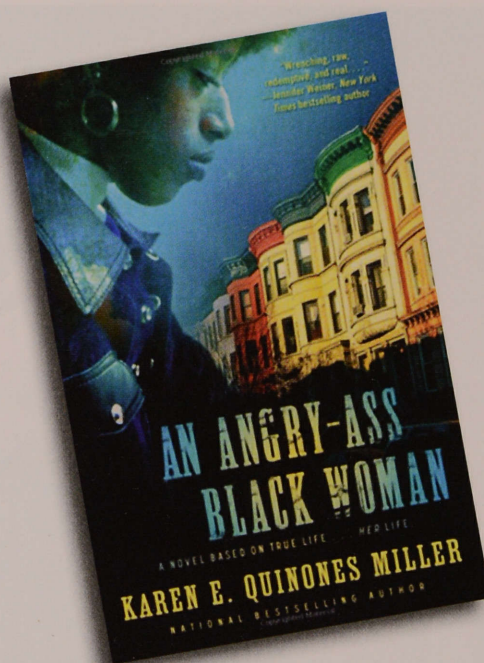
As you read Ke-Ke's story, you are exposed to both the bad conditions that cause many to fail, and to the will-power that carries some family members onto success. Karen Quinones Miller describes how anger can drive some people to lose and others to win a new life.

The author's *Angry-Ass Black Woman* attitude drove her to become a successful author, journalist and teacher.

She's written several best-selling books, including *Satin Doll*, *I'm Telling*, *Using What You Got* and *Uptown Dreams*.

The Harlem streets where Karen Quinones Miller grew up, just a few blocks below Columbia University, are hardly recognizable today because of gentrification. The five-story, walk-up cold water flats are now equipped with elevators, doormen and stainless steel kitchens. A whole generation is totally unaware of how it was for people to survive in the Harlems of the world. True, there are still projects, drugs, crime, dilapidated buildings, poor schools and welfare systems, but despite it all, then and now, people continue to survive and succeed.

This is not a book for the squeamish – it is filled with much of the street drama and coarse language that keeps it real – but it is a story that needs to be told. And Karen Quinones Miller tells it very well. A must read!





The Switch II: Clockwork (Including "The Switch I")

by Valjeanne Jeffers
(CreateSpace Independent
Publishing)

The future, according to author Valjeanne Jeffers, C'84, consists of a world filled with futuristic transportation pods that shoot across town on compressed air and are self-cleaning, as well as mechanical hover crafts that whisk you to your door. You press your palm on a box at your front door and you are greeted by your house that welcomes you home. Every wish is at your command – including robots that you choose to be your companions – both platonic and intimate.

But despite all of this change, some things in the world remain the same. People are divided according to class lines: those in power choose who lives well, in a bright, clean, atmosphere, while the underclass consists

of the poor, multicultural masses, who must live in underground quarters with polluted air and water, scarce food and decrepit housing. They exist exclusively to serve the needs of the power class, and they are only allowed above ground while working. Class battles rage from this dynamic.

Jeffers looks at this future world with imagination and wit, while delving into the inner spiritual and physical needs of the people involved. *The Switch* has scenes filled with horror, erotica, intrigue, fighting, love and a lot of action.

This is just the kind of reading to keep you warm on long winter nights.

Other sci-fi books by Jeffers include the Immortal series (*Immortal*, *Immortal II: The Time of Legend*, *Immortal III: Stealer of Souls*, *Immortal IV: Collision of Worlds*) as well as *Grandmere's Secret* and *Probe*.

Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America (For Colored Girls Who've Considered Politics When Being Strong Isn't Enough)

by Melissa V. Harris-Perry
(Yale University Press)

The title of this book tells exactly where it's going. Melissa Harris-Perry, Tulane University professor and host of a weekend news and opinion show on MSNBC, is a much sought-after political analyst known for her straightforward, no-holds-barred questioning of her guests and for her diligent inquiry into politics that especially affect women and Black people. *Sister Citizen* demonstrates these qualities.

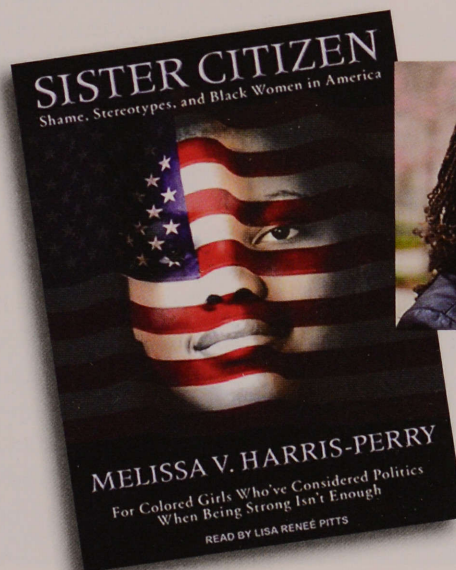
Not one to be scuttled by political dodging, Harris-Perry recently blew up at a guest for a remark indicating that being wealthy involved taking risks, implying that the poor (taking welfare) are not risk-takers, "What's riskier than living poor in America?" Harris-Perry exploded. (She

has since apologized for her outburst.) But that incident illustrates what stirs Harris-Perry to attack any mistaken concept concerning race in America.

In *Sister Citizen*, Harris-Perry explores how Black women have been historically pigeonholed and "misrecognized" by racial lies and distortions that have existed since slavery. They are categorized as either wanton wenches or mammy-servants at heart, as they attempt to get an education and jobs, hold political offices and run businesses.

These stereotypes – that Black women are "Mammy, Jezebel, or Sapphire" – are the descriptions by which women, in several focus groups conducted by Harris-Perry, said they had found themselves falsely identified. "There was broad agreement that white people generally saw them as either promiscuous or asexual."

Using literary references for illustration, as well as words of women scholars who lived in the 19th and 20th centuries, Harris-Perry notes that despite



the women's rights and civil rights movements, little has changed in the perceptions of how Black women are viewed by the general society.

The first chapter of *Sister Citizen* offers the illustration given by Zora Neale Hurston, the Harlem Renaissance writer and anthropologist, in her seminal book, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. The strength of Janie to overcome many obstacles in order to be her own person, and not give in to her grandmother's advice that "Black women are the mules of the world," shows the ability of Black women to succeed, despite handicaps. But what is the cost? Harris-Perry likens this ability and strength of Black women to finding a way to "stand straight in a crooked room."

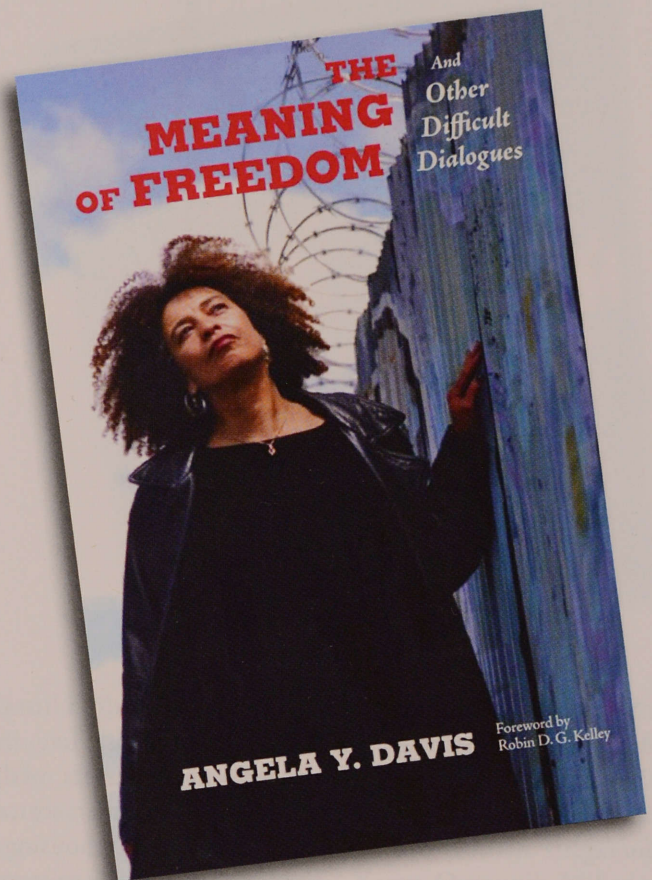
Harris-Perry writes: "This book is not a work of history, but it relies on Black women's history as a frame for understanding contemporary politics. It is not a work of literary criticism, but it relies on literature written by and about Black women. It is not a biography, but it gives some Black women an opportunity to tell parts of their personal stories."

Harris-Perry notes that Black women use several ways to compensate for the negatives placed before them, including taking care of others, often to the neglect of themselves, career-building, over-pampering the men and children in their lives, and religion. All of these activities, if not kept in balance, can lead to the deterioration of a woman's ability to relieve stress and feel happiness. "When Black women are expected to be

super-strong, they cannot be simply human," Harris-Perry writes.

Other literary references include Ntozake Shange's choreopoem, "for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf," which is paraphrased in her subtitle; Toni Morrison's *Beloved*; poet Elizabeth Alexander's "Praise Song for the Day," read at President Obama's inauguration in 2009; "The Bridge Poem," by Kate Rushin; and Sweet Honey in the Rock's "No Mirrors in My Nana's House."

This book is a must-read by every Black woman, her family, friends and anyone who wants to get a better understanding of how culture, politics and race affect us all.



The Meaning of Freedom: And Other Difficult Dialogues

by Angela Y. Davis. Foreword by Robin D.G. Kelley
(City Lights Open Media)

Angela Davis, professor, scholar and writer, has been examining the elements of freedom for all of her adult life. From her passionate defense of Black activists of the 1960s and 1970s to now in the early 21st century, she has stood at the forefront of voices that challenged any system that disenfranchised the rights of any citizens.

Dr. Robin D.G. Kelley, cultural historian, in his foreword writes, "It is not too much to call her one of the world's leading philosophers of freedom."

In *The Meaning of Freedom*, Davis analyzes what freedom really is and how it depends on who is voicing it and how it is perceived in today's society. In this collection of essays, accumulated from speeches made at various colleges and organizations over the years, Davis tackles the issues she feels that will most affect our future as a people, as a nation and as a world.

These issues include the differences between how the older civil rights workers dealt with problems and how problems are being handled by the young people of the hip-hop generation. She urges people to let the younger activists develop their own plans. "We need new ideas and new strategies that will take us into the 21st century," she said in 1994. "What I am suggesting is that those of us who are elders have to stop functioning as gatekeepers. We cannot establish age and civil rights or Black power experience as the main criteria for radical Black political leadership today."

Another problem that causes her concern is the prison-industrial complex and the role racism plays in the disproportionate incarceration of Blacks, Latinos, and poor people. "Radical Multiculturalism," "Abolition Democracy," "Racism: Then and Now" are more chapters in this thought-provoking volume.

In "Recognizing Racism in the Era of Neoliberalism," from a talk at Murdoch University in Western Australia, Davis writes, "As a child, I had first discovered South African apartheid when I learned that

Birmingham, Ala., my hometown, was known as the Johannesburg of the South... . A pivotal requirement of my childhood education was to learn the language of racism..." She adds that we need to "recognize this deep structural life of racism."

In "Difficult Dialogues," taken from an address to the National Women's Studies Association Conference held in Atlanta in 2009, Davis acknowledged that in the 32 years of the group's existence, she would have "found it virtually impossible to imagine that the NWSA would be presided over by a Black woman — much less a Black woman like Beverly Guy-Sheftall. (Dr. Sheftall, C'66, is director of the Women's Resource Center at Spelman College)... This is historic; this is equivalent to a millennial shift for the feminist studies community; hopefully this marks the beginning of a new era."

"For many years and many decades, there have been critiques of, and struggles against, those who insisted that gender as a category was self-contained and self-sufficient and that scholarly inquiry... was possible without attending to race, sexuality, class, disability and nation.

"This conference reflects a new consensus, or at least the desire for a new consensus" Davis writes. She then refers to the book *Gender Talk* by Dr. Guy-Sheftall and former Spelman president, Dr. Johnnetta Cole that reminds "... that two decades after the putative end of slavery, Anna Julia Cooper was calling for 'a moment of retrospection,

introspection and prospection,' in order to analyze ... the pervasive legacy of slavery, the racism of the white women's movement." Guy-Sheftall and Cole also called for an "analysis of sexism within the Black community." Davis acknowledges, "We fight the same battles over and over again. They are never won for eternity, but ... in the process we expand and enlarge our very notion of freedom."

Overcoming Speechlessness: A Poet Encounters the Horror in Rwanda, Eastern Congo, and Palestine/Israel

by Alice Walker
(Seven Stories Press)

Whether you are listening to the voice of writer Alice Walker as she reads from her works, or you are immersed in reading one of her celebrated volumes of fiction, poetry or essays, you can be sure your life will be changed.

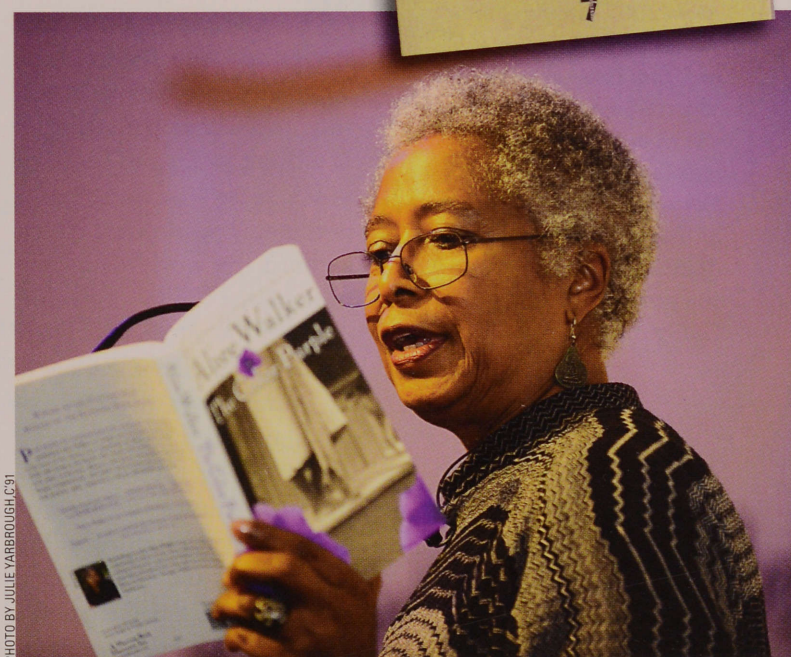
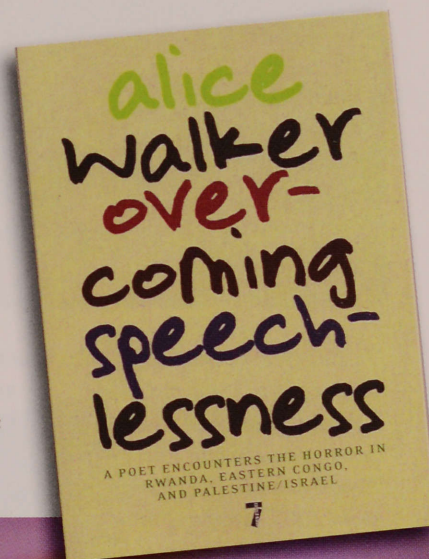


PHOTO BY JULIE YARBROUGH © '11



PHOTO: JULIE YARBROUGH

Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, C'66, director of the Spelman College Women's Research & Resource Center, and alumna Alice Walker met in "The Thinking Room, 2005" following Ms. Walker's lecture as part of the center's Toni Cade Bambara Scholars/Writers/Activists Speaker Series. The room is a mixed media installation by artist Renee Stout that was one of 32 pieces included in "Material Girls: Contemporary Black Women Artists" fall exhibition presented by the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art.

Now celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Pulitzer Prize-winning, cultural icon, *The Color Purple*, Walker stands tall among those whose intellectual prowess has been recognized the world over. Translated into film and stage, this story about the struggles of a Black woman to find dignity in herself in a racist, male-dominated world, has struck a chord the world over. The protagonist Celie's triumph is shared by all women. That is corroborated by the longevity of this novel, the 27-year-old film, and the more recent long-running (2005) Broadway and national theater production by Oprah Winfrey (who played the role of Sofia in the Stephen Spielberg film).

But Walker has never been

one to bask in the light of one accomplishment. She continues writing, reading, thinking and sharing. Recently, at Spelman College, her first alma mater, Walker read from a selection of her works, including *The Color Purple*. One of her most meaningful current projects is the dialogue offered in *Overcoming Speechlessness*, in which Walker gives readers a different view of the effects of war and lawlessness on families, and especially on women and children.

Following a visit to Rwanda and Eastern Congo with Women for Women International in 2006, Walker was able to see the results of the horrible mutilations people endured during the wars there. Three years later, invited by the women's peace group CodePink, Walker traveled to Israel and Palestine and talked to the women in refugee camps who had lost family members and their homes, and who had suffered life-changing injuries and daily indignities.

As these women tell their stories to Walker, readers of her essays will be introduced to the personal testimonies that bring you face to face with evil. No longer will you be able to turn a deaf ear to the partially reported news and walk away indifferent. One story you'll never forget is from a woman in the Congo, whose home was invaded by machete and gun-wielding soldiers who hacked her husband to death, cut off her leg, cooked it, and when her son refused to eat his mother's leg, shot him to death. They left her for dead; she has no idea of the fate of her daughter

but clings to the hope of finding her. This is the stuff nightmares are made of, but we seldom get the chance to witness such atrocities.

"What has happened to humanity?" Walker writes. "Because whatever has happened to humanity, whatever is currently happening to humanity, it is happening to all of us. No matter how hidden the cruelty, no matter how far off the screams of pain and terror, we live in one world. We are one people."

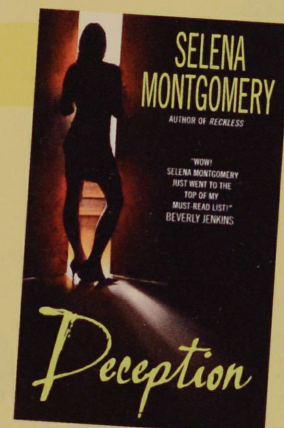
Driving into Gaza and traveling its roads, Walker writes of the rubble – the buildings demolished by Israeli bombings. "Buildings in which people were living. Buildings from which hundreds of broken bodies have been removed. ... What this task must have been like, both physically and psychologically, staggers the mind. ... We pass ministries, bombed into fragments. We pass a hospital, bombed and gutted by fire."

The solution to this divide between Israel and Palestine, Walker writes, is to return to "a one-state solution. Palestinians and Jews, who have lived together in peace in the past, must work together to make this a reality once again."

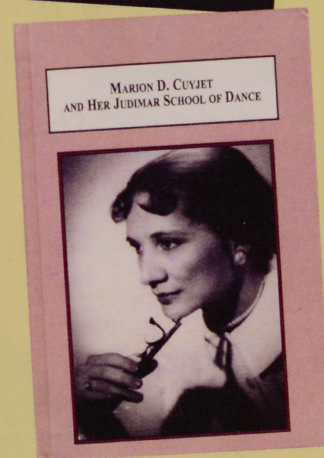
Will this happen? The world didn't think South Africa's apartheid would ever change, but it did. Walker presents a vivid and valid case that the world can no longer be silent in the face of atrocities if it wants to survive. "We will be heard," she writes.

ANGELA BROWN TERRELL is a writer and editor based in Columbia, Md.

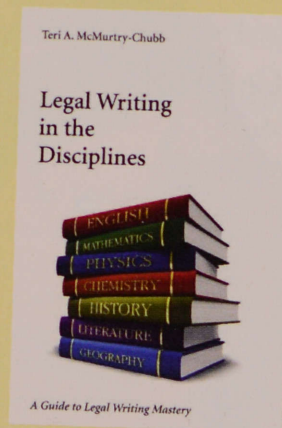
Stacey Abrams, C'95, recently published *Deception* (Harper Collins), under her pen name, Selena Montgomery. *Deception* is the second book in her Faraday Trilogy. In this acclaimed suspense thriller, professional gambler Fin Borders must go home and face the terrible choices that drove her away from the only family she's ever known. Ms. Abrams has written eight other novels under this pen name.



Melanie White Dixon, C'73, released *Marion D. Cuyjet and Her Judimar School of Dance: Training Ballerinas in Black Philadelphia, 1948–1971*, published by Mellen Press in July 2011. The publication is the first comprehensive study of pioneering ballet pedagogue, Marion D. Cuyjet, who established one of the first institutions in the United States that provided classical ballet training for African American dancers.



Teri A. McMurtry-Chubb, C'95, published *Legal Writing in the Disciplines, A Guide to Legal Writing Mastery* (Carolina Academic Press) in June 2012. The book re-conceptualizes law in its disciplinary context. The text is designed to effectively communicate legal analysis and writing skills to pre-law and new law students using the language of their undergraduate and graduate majors.



Sheron Patterson, C'81, released *The Blessings and Bling: How Faith and Fashion Helped Me Survive Breast Cancer* (Gratitude Press) on December 15, 2011. The book gives an upbeat take on a serious matter and shares real-world tips for helping people cope. Ms. Patterson uses her story to help others facing some of life's toughest challenges. In the book you will find inspiration and get practical tips for dealing with a life-changing diagnosis, and you will learn to live in the moment, to find purpose in your pain, and to realize that God has not abandoned you.



CIRCLE of *Sisterhood*

Spelman and the Oprah Winfrey Connection

BY TOMIKA DEPRIEST, C'89



PHOTOS: JULIE YARBROUGH, C'91

Oprah Winfrey posed behind the scenes with her staff members Pier Smith, C'2006 (left) and Angelique McFarland, C'82, prior to her 2012 Spelman Commencement address.

Spelman students of the Class of 2016 Liunuwani Rapalalani, Debra Ngcobo, and Bongeka Zuma (left to right) were among the first to graduate from the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls.

The Spelman College and Oprah Winfreys organizations share similarities. Both have made a commitment to excellence, celebrated leadership in their fields and demonstrated dedication to community service. In addition, both have been guided by visionary leadership. Plus, there are many sister-to-sister connections.

The two share a special relationship. A two-time commencement speaker (1993 and 2012), Ms. Winfrey received an honorary degree from the College in 1993, made a million-dollar donation to the science center in 1995 and was honored this year with the National Community Service Award. She also visited the campus this year for a community conversation with President Beverly Daniel Tatum in Sisters Chapel.

Spelmanites have held recent internships at the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls (OWLAG) in South Africa, tutoring students and serving as resident assistants. Bongeka Zuma, Liuhuwani Rapalalani and Debra Ngcobo are OWLAG graduates and now students in the Class of 2016. All three visited the campus two years ago during a tour to the United States.

"There was a panel of Spelman women who spoke to us," says Ms. Zuma, noting that she was struck by their confidence. "I was sitting there thinking to myself: That is the kind of woman I want to be." Ms. Ngcobo adds, "I went home, did more research and learned that Spelman produces women of excellence. The sisterhood was absolutely fantastic." Ms. Rapalalani reveals, "The energy made me fall in love. Coming back two years later, I am feeling the same thing. It's reassuring that this is the school for me."

But they didn't *have* to travel to Spelman to experience the sisterhood. It operates off campus as well. Pier Smith, C'2006, executive assistant to the chief of staff at Harpo Productions, Inc., a production company founded by Oprah, says building relationships with the OWLAG students has been meaningful. "I can't wait to see them as Spelman women," explains the Chicago native. "I promised them I'd try to make it down for [new student orientation] induction."

At work, she sat in close proximity to Angelique

McFarland, C'82, executive correspondence assistant. Together, they provided key administrative support in Harpo's executive suite. Employment for both ended this summer as the company takes a new direction – Ms. McFarland after 17½ years and Ms. Smith after more than six years. Below are their individual stories.

ANGELIQUE MCFARLAND, C'82, BEATS THE ODDS

A Toledo, Ohio, native, this first-generation college graduate arrived on campus with only \$180 and a determination to receive a Spelman education. It was Dr. Lois Moreland (retired professor and chair of political science, and founding director of the International Affairs Center), along with counselors in financial aid that convinced her that she could do it. Ms. McFarland shares, "I did not have a college background in my family, and Dr. Moreland was one who really encouraged me and made me feel welcome."

The other thing that stood out about Dr. Moreland to the then 22-year-old student was her seriousness. The English major, who had an interest in law, reflects, "I remember going to class one time after she had given us a homework assignment. It was clear to her after about the second or third student [she encountered], that many had not completed the homework. She dismissed the class and told everyone not to ever come back to her class unprepared. That left a huge, huge mark on me."

While still a student, Ms. McFarland began working in the legal field and did so for 10 years until relocating to Chicago. Initially, she was employed at a large law firm before landing at Harpo, first as an administrative assistant. She was later promoted to executive correspondence assistant. "I never thought I would end up here, especially working directly with Ms. Winfrey," she admits.

Her claim to fame at work was her ability to write well – an accomplishment she ties to her academic background. In a letter to Nobel Laureate and Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient Eliezer 'Elie' Wiesel – on the boss' behalf



Angelique McFarland's sophomore year photo in the 1982 Spelman yearbook.

"I never thought I would end up here, especially working directly with Ms. Winfrey."

—ANGELIQUE MCFARLAND, C'82

— she spoke in specific terms about the Holocaust experience, and the miracle of surviving it to live and tell the story. “Ms. Winfrey received a reply [requesting] to use the text of that letter in a program booklet,” says Ms. McFarland. “From that moment on, I soared.”

To put this thought in context, she offers, “I was 39 years old when I started here and finally got the chance to start using my skills. I have been doing it ever since. Oprah and I work together, but I pretty much have her down.” Ms. McFarland sums up, “[We] were having lunch just this (May) afternoon, and she was saying how grateful she was that [I’ve been] able to represent her voice.”



Pier Smith's senior year photo in the 2006 Spelman yearbook.

PIER SMITH, C'2006, BUILDS ON LEGACY

This graduate, whose sister is Otise (Smith) Schuk, C'99, credits the Women's Research and Resource Center founded and directed by Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, C'66, and within it the Spelman College Digital Moving Image Salon (DMIS) founded and directed by Dr. Ayoka Chenzira as critical elements in her matriculation. “Dr. Sheftall was huge to me,” elaborates Ms. Smith, who transferred to campus after spending a year at Atlanta College of Art. “It was in her class that I developed my major. It really sharpened my mind.” She also emphasizes, “DMIS helped further my opportunity to study film.”

Ms. Smith, who landed a job at Harpo around December 2006, used her DMIS project, “Sisters of the Sojourn,” to bring herself to their attention. It was a documentary about the Spelman student movement protesting Nelly and misogyny in hip hop, produced in 2004 by the comparative women's studies major, along with Moya Bailey, C'2005 and Takkara Brunson, C'2005. Their work was presented at screenings around the country, including the Women of Color Film Festival in Berkeley, Calif., and Atlanta's Women of Color International Film Festival and the Black Women Film Festival.

“We were not happy with the level of complacency some women have about images of women in the media,” says Ms. Smith, pointing out that the project “opened up a dialogue that is still relevant today.” It was a five-minute clip of it that landed in company hands, along with her resume. When she got the call from Harpo,



Pier Smith, C'2006 and OWLAG Mentee Bongeeka Zuma, C'2016

“it was a temporary position at the company of my dreams,” she says.

Ms. Smith turned down a competing full-time offer to see how she could leverage the opportunity. It turned into a six-year journey during which she was promoted to executive assistant to the chief of staff. She helped manage a variety of tasks, including Ms. Winfrey's “briefing list,” which she describes as “all the things that are needed or required” for implementation.

She says witnessing the company's powerful impact on the lives of others was also rewarding. “I’ve had people track me down about something we did that changed their lives,” she recalls. One special memory: When she secured Oprah Winfrey Show tickets for a mother and her terminally ill daughter. Celine Dion was a guest, and after facilitating a backstage introduction for them with both Ms. Winfrey and the Grammy Award-winning pop star, “I asked Ms. Dion if she wouldn't mind taking a photo [with them] and she could not have been more gracious,” Ms. Smith opines. “I could tell by the smile on the [daughter's] face that for an hour and a half she had forgotten her illness. Before leaving, she and her mother gave me the biggest hug with tears in their eyes.”

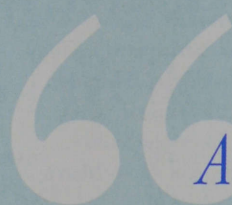
Regarding her college experience, she notes, “Spelman has given me a clear lens to view myself and the rest of the world. It sharpens your perspective on where you fit and gives you a sense of who you are, and confidence in the way you are trained. Spelman teaches you about yourself, not just academically, but the way the world works.”

TOMIKA DEPRIEST, C'89, is executive director of communications at Spelman.

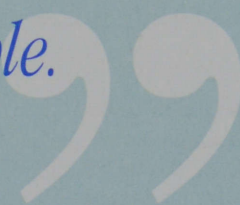
“Spelman has given me a clear lens to view myself and the rest of the world.”

—PIER SMITH, C'2006,

Alumnae Notes



*A sister can be seen as someone
who is both ourselves
And very much not ourselves —
a special kind of double.*



— Toni Morrison

1957

Ruth Baines

Professional: Established Baines-Woodruff Endowed Lectureship in Health Disparities at Alabama State University.

1961

Jacqueline Marshall

Personal: Honored in recognition of service and sustained effort in fostering the ideals of Christian living at the Cathedral of Christ the King Church by Archbishop Wilton Gregory. She received the Outstanding Catholic Woman of the Archdiocese of Atlanta 2012 award on March 3, 2012.

1963

Brenda Hill Cole

Professional: Keynote speaker at the graduation ceremony for the Women of Excellence Leadership Series, class of 2012, on March 29 at Sisters Chapel.

1964

Eleanor Hinton Hoytt

Professional: Featured speaker at the Black Women's Health Imperative's "What Does It Take to be Black, Female and Healthy in America?" held March 16, 2012 at the Camille O. Hanks Cosby Academic Center Auditorium. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, C'66, and Fleda Mask Jackson, C'73, also participated in the event.

1966

Beverly Guy-Sheftall

Professional: Featured speaker at the Black Women's Health Imperative's "What Does It Take to be Black, Female and Healthy in America?" held March 16, 2012 at the Camille O. Hanks Cosby Academic Center Auditorium. Eleanor Hinton Hoytt, C'64, and Fleda Mask Jackson, C'73, also participated in the event.

1967

Valerie Greene King

Professional: Listed in the March 2012 issue of *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* as one of 25 women in the nation who are making a difference. She is the director of the University of Central Florida Office of Diversity Initiatives.

1973

Virginia Davis Floyd

Professional: Featured lecturer at Journey of Connectedness, Global Voices and Experiences of Social Justice on November 3, 2011, at The Suites Dining Room, Spelman College.

Fleda Mask Jackson

Professional: Featured speaker at the Black Women's Health Imperative's "What Does It Take to be Black, Female and Healthy in America?" held March 16, 2012 at the Camille O. Hanks Cosby Academic Center Auditorium. Eleanor Hinton Hoytt, C'64, and Beverly Guy-Sheftall, C'66, also participated in the event.

Delores McCollum

Professional: Wrote the article, "American Education's Silent Killer," in the April 11, 2012, issue of *The Call Post*.

1976

Sharon Owens

Professional: Participated in the Spelman College Induction Ceremony: Class of 2016 Entering the Legacy of Greatness, on August 19, 2012, in Sisters Chapel.

1987

Melanie Cook

Professional: Appointed to the board of directors for the Fulton County/City of Atlanta Land Bank Authority. The mission of the Land Bank Authority is to return non-revenue-generating, non-tax-producing property to effective use in order to provide housing, new industry and jobs for the citizens of Fulton County.

1988

Subriana Pierce

Professional: Served as the co-chair of The Network of Executive Women CPG Retail Diversity Forum 2012, held March 6-8, 2012, in Dallas.

1991

Cynthia Bowman

Professional: Participated in The Office of Cooperative Education's The Co-op 101 Seminar Series, Resume and Interview Skills Workshop, Session #1 on March 13, 2012, at Spelman.

India Gary Martin

Professional: COO Investment Banking Technology & Operations, JP Morgan

Audrey McKay

Professional: Featured on the website, MyHBCUInterview.com, on March 16, 2012.

1993

Kimberly Weems

Professional: Featured speaker at the eighth annual Etta Zuber Falconer Lecture, "Significant Effects: The Influence of Spelman on My Career and Beyond," on Thursday, April 12, 2012, at the Albro Falconer Manley Science Center.

1995

Stacey Abrams

Professional: Featured in The AUC Digest on February 20, 2012, in the article, "Living Legend in Black History: Stacey Y. Abrams, Georgia House Minority Leader, the First Female and First African American Elected." She also spoke at the Atlanta Press Club's newsmaker luncheon on March 27, 2012, at The Commerce Club in Atlanta.

1996

Juliet Hall

Professional: Featured speaker at the SSGA's New Conversational Series, "Young, Black and Rich!" on February 29, 2012 in the Spelman Museum of Fine Art.

1997

Teri Fair

Birth: Daughter, Kendi Kioni Platt, born on February 27, 2012, in Boston.

Professional: Promoted from assistant professor to associate professor with tenure in the Department of Government at Suffolk University, June 1, 2012.

Dalayna Johnson

Birth: Daughter Layla, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, 19 inches, on February 27, 2012.

1999

India Phipps Epps

Birth: Daughter Zoë Olivia Epps, on December 15, 2011.

2001

Qiana Bradford

Professional: Featured in the Cheers Section of *The Atlanta Voice*, February 17-23, 2012, for her selection as one of the distinguished U.S. diplomats who was featured in February 2012 on the website of the U.S. State Department in honor of Black History Month.

Dionne Griffiths

Education: Presented her research paper "Caribbean Dance Fusion: Redefining Contemporary Dance" at the 1st Annual Edna Manley College/Rex Nettleford Arts Conference in Kingston, Jamaica, in October 2011. She introduced Joan Myers Brown and Brenda Dixon Gottschild at a discussion and book signing of Dr. Gottschild's new book, *Joan Myers Brown and the Audacious Hope of the Black Ballerina: A Biobistory of American Performance*, in Philadelphia in March 2012. She also introduced Dr. Gottschild at the Society of Dance History Scholars Conference in June 2012. She presented her research paper "Mary Hinkson: Dance, Duality and Selfhood" at the Society of Dance History Scholars conference in Philadelphia in June 2012.

Change. Means. Action.

The Campaign for Spelman College

News

FALL 2012

Read Hall to Receive Improvements in Spelman's "Wellness Revolution"

A quick Internet search of the phrase "African-American women" and any disease will show that there is a serious health crisis in the Black community. Spelman is taking action. The College's recent launch of a new wellness initiative will refocus the athletics and physical education program on more personal health. The expansion of more fitness programs and activities career women are likely to continue as adults – running, weight training, Pilates – is the centerpiece of what President Beverly Tatum has named a "wellness revolution." An outgrowth of this new direction is Spelman's plan to renovate and expand Read Hall, the physical education building. Built in 1950 when the student population was just 500

students, the facility no longer meets the needs of the current population of 2,100 students.

The goal is to have an improved Read Hall that can support a state-of-the-art fitness education program which will benefit all students, not only improving their health but also preparing them to be wellness champions in communities beyond Spelman's gates. The College has already raised \$5.63 million of the \$13 million needed for the project.

Updating Read Hall is only one aspect of the new initiative at Spelman. Students are starting to participate in activities like aqua aerobics, Zumba, fitness walking and yoga. A chapter of "Black Girls Run" meets weekly on campus, and the College is expanding the physical education curriculum to be part of the enhanced, more

comprehensive wellness program that will touch every student.

"This is, and must be, a serious concern for us at Spelman because it is our population – young Black women – that is among the most at risk for negative health outcomes," said Dr. Tatum, referencing how the Spelman student body reflects the national trends of the increasing number of Black women battling diseases like diabetes and hypertension linked to obesity and lack of physical activity. "We as an

institution – committed to educating the whole person, mind, body and spirit – have an opportunity to change this epidemic."

Dr. Tatum points to 1881 when Sophia Packard and Harriet Giles, the founders of Spelman, traveled

through the South after the end of the Civil War and found an illiterate community of former slaves in desperate need of a "literacy revolution." "One hundred thirty-one years later, another literacy revolution is needed in the African-American community – wellness literacy – and a community of educated women – and men – can again be transformational," she said.

"We can easily say that [Spelman students] are the best and the brightest of their generation. We are investing a tremendous amount of time and talent into their development, an investment which will transform their lives and the communities they will impact, but will they live long enough to make that impact? Will they have the healthy quality of life needed to truly deliver on the promise of their potential?"

While Spelman is a leading producer of women who obtain doctoral degrees in science and medicine, this new initiative exponentially expands the College's ability to improve health practices and outcomes in countless communities. Through the Wellness Revolution every Spelman woman has an opportunity to save not only her own life but those of her family and friends.



Action By the Goals

- G**lobal Engagement – 218 students studied abroad during the 2011-2012 academic year.
- O**pportunities for Undergraduate Research – In the last year, nearly 100 students participated in undergraduate research programs in areas such as in biomedical research, tropical studies and education policy.
- A**lumni Connections – 118 alumnae-student pairs are participating in the Sister 2 Sister Alumnae Student Connection Program, which added Education to the existing professional mentoring disciplines.
- L**eadership Development – Spelman's new comprehensive wellness program transforms the physical education curriculum with innovative programs and a state-of-the-art facility.
- S**ervice Learning – Since 2009, more than 60 students have worked with resettled refugees and non-profits that serve them through the Refugee Issues course.

For more information about
The Campaign for Spelman College,
please visit www.changemeansaction.com
or contact the Office of Development at
(866) 512-1690.

Howard Hughes Medical Institute Funding Expands Science Program

A recent gift of \$1 million from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute will advance the goals of the HHMI Undergraduate Science Education Program at Spelman. The expansion will provide an interdisciplinary academic and research experience that develops and prepares Spelman students to be innovators and global leaders in science and medicine.

The program trains and supports student researchers in several disciplines, supports science technology, engineering and math (also known as STEM) faculty in developing a more interdisciplinary curriculum, and cultivates students' abilities to assess which elements of their various approaches to science education have been successful and why.

"This program is very ambitious. In the past, it has sponsored student research, developed the Research Associates Program, where students work on research projects at Spelman or local institutions, and it has helped develop curriculum in the biology department," said Aditi Pai, Ph.D., associate professor of biology, and primary director of the HHMI program. "The new program is going to be interdisciplinary, and it will have the Spelman Mentored and Research Trained scholars program targeting first-year, first-semester



Dr. Aditi Pai, primary director of the HHMI program, connects with a student.

ter students. I'm excited because we are catching them young, and younger appears to be better from all of the research we've read."

Students in SMART will learn the business of science by participating in the two year-long seminars aimed at professional and research preparation. "They will learn about conducting research and the importance of having ethical practices, as well as how to present and maintain research," said Dr. Pai. "The students' experiences will be more intense than in the past."

Spelman College has a longstanding relationship with HHMI, which has provided funding to the College for more than 20 years. The science and research initiatives funded at Spelman have resulted in a 50 percent increase in the number of biology graduates pursuing doctoral degrees since 1992. HHMI has supported more than 250 student research trainees, giving some the opportunity to work with African-American women scientists at local and

national institutions. Also, HHMI has provided funding for technology upgrades and outreach initiatives like a mentor network that links Spelman science alumnae with local area high school students.

Of the 187 institutions that apply for HHMI funding, Spelman was among 47 small colleges and universities in the United States to receive one of the competitive grants. Spelman's grant, one of 11 Capstone Awards made to long-time recipients of HHMI funding, is focused on apprentice-based student research.

"HHMI is investing in these schools because they have shown they are superb incubators of new ideas and models that might be replicated by other institutions to improve how science is taught in college," said Sean B. Carroll, vice president of science education at HHMI.

"We are now in the capstone phase of the program," said Lisa Hibbard, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry, who directed the program for the past three years and currently serves as co-director with Dr. Pai. "As one of those initially funded, we will be expected to showcase around the nation how innovative we are in the program. We are focused more on students being innovators in research, encouraging them to think outside the box and to take what they have been involved in during their research training and move it to the next level. That is really what is new and exciting about the program."

Spelman Receives \$1 Million for Scholarships

Each year approximately 100 students leave Spelman College because they do not have the financial resources to continue their education. Generous donors are stepping in to help ensure students are able to complete their Spelman experience and receive their degree.

On Oct. 30, 2012, Rosalind Brewer, C'84, chair of Spelman's board of trustees, trustee Vicki Palmer, Keisha Knight Pulliam, C'2001, and Atlanta philanthropist Millie Smith organized a successful fundraising luncheon and fashion show hosted at Saks Fifth Avenue in Atlanta. Through the leadership commitments of this dedicated coalition of supporters, Spelman students will benefit from \$1 million in scholarship funding.



Spelman trustee Vicki Palmer, Keisha Knight Pulliam, C'2001, Spelman Board of Trustees Chair Rosalind Brewer, C'84, Spelman President Beverly Daniel Tatum, and Atlanta philanthropist Millie Smith

"Every year, I hear the heartbreaking stories of students who have done everything we asked them to do academically, yet their financial situation prevents them from pursuing their dream of a college degree," said Palmer who, along with the co-hosts, presented Spelman President Beverly Daniel Tatum with a mock check for \$1 million and a note that read "100 missing — found." "We are so appreciative of the donors who supported this effort. Their contributions will make a difference in the lives of these deserving young women and allow them to become global change agents."

For more information about how you can contribute to scholarships at Spelman please contact the Office of Development at (866) 512-1690.

Spelman Leads the Way

The College Dedicates Newly Renovated Laura Spelman Residence Hall

The Spelman community continues to celebrate the re-opening of Laura Spelman Rockefeller Residence Hall, officially dedicated on Oct. 19, 2012. Built in 1918 and named for the wife of John D. Rockefeller, the original academic building for home economics has undergone a significant transformation.

The current home of the Spelman College Social Justice Fellows Program visibly celebrates the role of women of color as social justice practitioners, activists and scholars. The first floor of what Spelman affectionately refers to as "Laura Spelman" features an expansive mural beginning with Sophia B. Packard and Harriet E. Giles, the founders of Spelman College, and progressing through the change agents who have been part of the College's legacy of social activism since its founding in 1881.

Engaged by the mural, attendees of the dedication viewed portraits

of women justice advocates as they toured the three-story, 200,000-square-foot residence hall, visiting the social justice office and library and the 24-hour study commons, named in honor of former board of trustees chair, Yvonne R. Jackson, C'70.

The new Laura Spelman features the addition of an audio/visual conference room, a digital media lab with computers and laptops, an exercise room, a psychology lab, a multipurpose group study space, lounge areas, 40 private residence spaces with refrigerators and microwaves, and community kitchens, storage and washer/dryer units. The state-of-the-art design is on target to achieve the national sustainability standard LEED Silver Certification.

Philanthropic support of the \$9.9 million renovation includes a significant gift from the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation and leadership gifts from The Kresge Foundation, Tull Charitable Foundation, R. Howard Dobbs Foundation, Georgia Power, The Rich Foundation, SunTrust Bank managed foundations, Spelman College Board of Trustees and many others.



Spelman Trustee Bradley Sheares is shown with his mother, after whom the technology conference room is named, and his daughters. From left to right: Adrienne Sheares, C'2008, Anita Sheares, C'2014, Ora Myles Sheares, and Alicia Sheares, C'2012



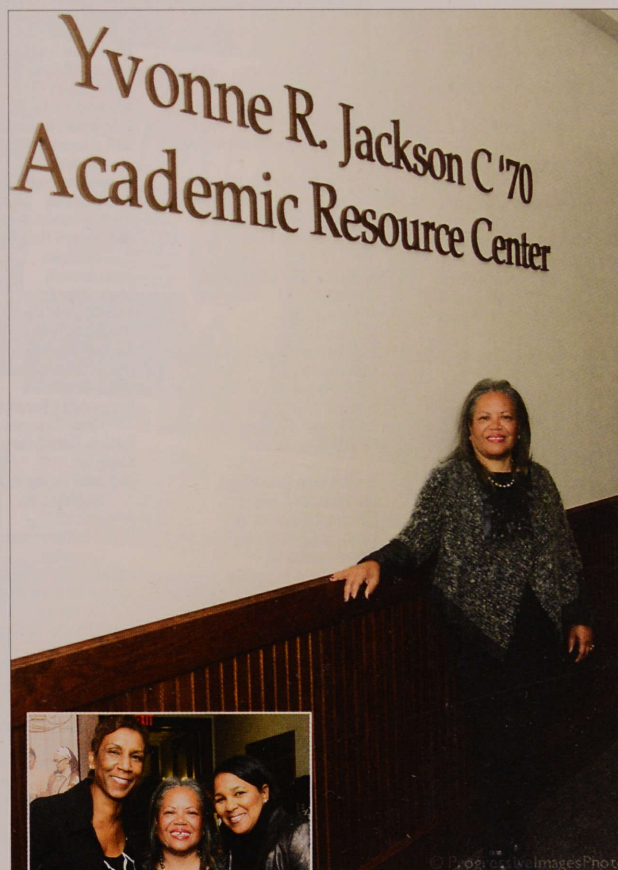
Spelman trustees Kimberly Davis, C'81, and Celeste Watkins Hayes, C'96, in front of the technology lab named after Davis' mother Carolyn Chatman Browne.



The mural in Laura Spelman depicts the history of social justice at Spelman.



Spelman social justice fellows



Former board of trustees chair Yvonne R. Jackson, C'70



Trustee Jeri Devard, C'79, Jackson, and board of trustees chair, Rosalind Brewer, C'84

Your Gifts By the Numbers

Thanks to the generous gifts of thousands of donors, we continue to meet our annual fund goals allowing the College to improve the Spelman experience of our students.

As of Oct. 31, 2012, **\$41** million dollars has been raised for scholarships, assisting nearly **900** students.

Both through direct philanthropy to the renovation of Laura Spelman Rockefeller Hall and through consistent budget support through the annual fund (some of which has been supported through philanthropy), the College now houses **1386** students — **TWO THIRDS** of our enrolled population.

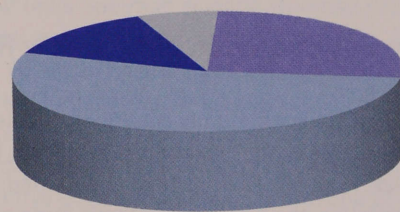
Philanthropy also contributed to the **156** newly air conditioned dorm rooms on campus last year, nearly doubling the total percentage of air conditioned rooms to **63** percent.

More than **10** percent of this philanthropy has come from **11,201** alumnae gifts resulting in **\$13,994,506** in total contributions to the campaign.

Goal by Priority

Goal: \$150 Million

Total Raised: \$109 Million



Scholarships

\$80 Million (53%) - Total Raised: \$40 Million

Faculty and Academic Programs

\$40 Million (27%) - Total Raised: \$37 Million

Campus Environment

\$10 Million (7%) - Total Raised: \$10 Million

Annual Fund

\$20 Million (13%) - Total Raised: \$22 Million

Data as of Oct. 31, 2012

The Campaign for Spelman College Donor List

www.changemeansaction.com

Spelman College gratefully acknowledges the following contributors for providing gift commitments of \$25,000 and above to The Campaign for Spelman College during the period July 1, 2004 through October 31, 2012.

\$20,000,000 and above Individuals

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The Sheares Family Charitable Foundation
Brad Sheares and Adrienne Simmons

\$500,000—\$999,999 Individuals

Anonymous
Kimberly Browne Davis, C'81
LaTanya Richardson Jackson, C'71
Jon Stryker
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Pfizer Foundation/Pfizer, Inc.
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Beverly Daniel Tatum and Travis T. Tatum
George T. Wein

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The Starr Foundation
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United Parcel Service/UPS Foundation, Inc.
Walmart Foundation/Walmart
Xerox Corporation/Xerox Foundation

\$100,000—\$249,999 Individuals

Anonymous (2)
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Velda Givens Eerie
Terry L. and Marcella Jones
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Gwendolyn and Peter Norton
Suzanne F. Shank
Esther Silver-Parker
Isabella McIntyre Tobin, C'45 (dec.)

Corporations, Foundations, Organizations & Trusts

Abrams Foundation, Inc.
American Family Mutual Insurance Company
Arthur Vining Davis Foundations
Associated Colleges of the South
Atlanta Falcons
Atlanta Journal and Constitution
BMW of North America, Inc.
Bank of America Foundation/Bank of America
Bernard Osher Foundation
Boeing Company
Cummins Foundation/Cummins, Inc.
David, Helen & Marian Woodward Foundation
Emory University
Empire Office, Inc.
Estate of Jennie Marshall, C'37
Estate of Ida Peterson, C'46
Federated Corporate Services, Inc.
Fuller E. Callaway Foundation
General Motors
Georgia-Pacific Foundation/Georgia-Pacific Corporation
Goldman, Sachs & Company
Google, Inc.
Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation, Inc.
Honeywell, Inc.
IBM International Foundation/IBM Corporation
Institute for Higher Education Policy
John and Rosemary Brown Family Foundation
Limited Brands Foundation/the Limited, Inc.
Merck Partnership for Giving
Merrill Lynch & Company Foundation, Inc./Merrill Lynch
National Alumnae Association of Spelman College
Publix Supermarkets
R. Howard Dobbs, Jr. Foundation, Inc.
SunTrust Bank Foundation and Trustee Foundations
Florence & Harry English Memorial Fund
Harriet McDaniel Marshall Trust
The Community Foundation For Greater Atlanta, Inc.
The Falcon Fund
The Freeman Foundation
The Heart Foundations, Inc.
The Home Depot Foundation
The Isambard Kingdom Brunel Society of North America
The Keneda Fund
The Rich Foundation, Inc.
The Vasser Wolley Foundation, Inc.

The Thomas J. Watson Foundation
Verizon Foundation/Verizon

\$50,000—\$99,999 Individuals

Eloise Abernathy Alexis, C'86
Judith Fisher Arrington, C'57
Anne Ashmore-Hudson, C'63
Joy San Walker Brown, C'52 (dec.)
Mrs. Lucinda W. Bunn
Ruby Handspike Clay, C'54
Alice Gaston Combs, C'53 and Julius V. Combs
Sanguinetta M. Dover, C'77
Pauline E. Drake, C'58
Kaye Foster-Cheek
Marcelite Jordan Harris, C'64
Lezli Levene Harvell, C'2000 and Christopher Harvell
Darnita R. Killian, C'79
Bernice A. King, C'85
Theodora Rochelle Lee, C'84
Rick and Anna Mills
Desiree S. Pedescleaux
Danyale Price, C'91
David and Joyce Price
Anna Roosevelt
Lovette Twyman Russell, C'83 & Michael B. Russell
Kurt L. Schmoke
Grace McKivey Scipio, C'46
Jonathan Smith and Sherrill Blalock
Kathleen Mavis Tait, C'88
Colleen Janessa Taylor, C'90
Jesse and Cheryl Tyson
Alice M. Walker, C'65
Kathy N. Waller
Levi Watkins, Jr.
Josie Latimer Williams, C'47 (dec.)

Corporations, Foundations, Organizations & Trusts

AGL Resources, Inc.
Annexstad Family Foundation
Aramark, Inc.
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra
Boehringer Ingelheim Cares Foundation, Inc.
Bush Foundation
Cambridge Academic Group
Charles A. Frueauff Foundation, Inc.
Chick-fil-A, Inc.
Electronic Arts, Inc.
Energy Systems Group
Estate of Maude Gaines
Frances Wood Wilson Foundation, Inc.
Fund for Southern Communities
General Electric Company
Jack and Jill of America Foundation, Inc.
Winnie & Henry Loftin Trust
Lorraine Thomas Trust

Macy's
Mary Allen Lindsey Branan Foundation
Microsoft Corporation
National Philanthropic Trust
Procter & Gamble
Prudential Financial/The Prudential Foundation
Rosenthal & Company LLC
San Antonio Area Foundation
The Getty Foundation
The Henry Luce Foundation
The Philanthropic Collaborative, Inc.
The Teagle Foundation
UBS Financial Services, Inc./UBS Investment Bank
US Bank National Association
Winnie & Henry Loftin Trust
Yum! Brands Foundation

\$25,000—\$49,999 Individuals

Anonymous
Raven Abdul-Aleem, C'2004 and Zaid Abdul-Aleem
Gena Hudgins Ashe, C'83
Claire Lewis "Yum" Arnold
Sandra Baccus (dec.)
Ernestine Walker Baylor, C'49 (dec.)
J. Veronica Williams Biggins, C'68
Juel Pate Borders-Benson, C'54
Mary R. Brock
Carrie Buggs, C'56
Mary B. Burke
A. Toy Caldwell-Colbert, C'73 (dec.)
Bonnie S. Carter, C'89
Janice Chappelle, C'65 (dec.)
Laura and Richard Chasin
Lillian McKinney Cooley, C'55
Camille O. Cosby
William H. Cosby, Jr.
Angela Birch Cox, C'81
Mary Lynne Diggs, C'77
Lisa Egbuonu-Davis
Johnnie Hunter Foxworth, C'43
Kyndria K. Garth, C'95
Jean McArthur Grant, C'53
Dorothy J. Fuqua Grayson, C'65
Nina Echols Greenwood, C'85
Kimberly Kwanza Haynes, C'96
Kelly-Ann Iola Henry, C'96
Ernestine Dearing Hogan, C'68
June Gary Hopps, C'60
Edith Jackson-Hunter, C'63
Cynthia E. Jackson, C'81
Edgar J. Johnson
Ralph L. and David Johnson
Virginia Harris Johnson, C'58
Kassandra Kimbriel Jolley
Martin Luther King, III
Adrienne Lance Lucas, C'90
Traci Hartfield McKie, C'89

Eloise McKinney-Johnson, C'45
Susan A. McLaughlin
Charles E. Merrill, Jr.
Willie Mae Pearson-Butler, C'49
Sarah Peter
Anna Kathryn Ponder, C'86
Laurena Moore Powell, C'82
Helen Smith Price, C'79
Jacqueline Jones Royster, C'70
Frank and Robyn Sims
Donna M. Stafford, C'86
David N. Sundwall
Zandraetta Tims-Cook, C'92
Andrea Abrams Turner
Sandra Elaine Waite, C'95
Mary L. Brock Waters, C'66
Celeste Watkins-Hayes, C'96
Valerie Rockefeller Wayne
Trojanell Bordenave-Wilson, C'74 and Brent Wilson

Corporations, Foundations, Organizations & Trusts

Brand Connections
ConocoPhillips
Estate of Loyce Bynum
Estate of Charles Hicks
Estate of Dianne H. McDonald, C'33
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
ICG Real Estate Advisors, LLC
Ida Alice Ryan Trust
J. P. Morgan Foundation
John W. and Homes, Inc.
Key Foundation
KeyBank Foundation/KeyBank
Kimberly Clark Corporation
Lockheed Martin Aeronautical System
Mary N. Wolff Trust
Merchants National Properties, Inc.
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
North New Jersey Chapter, NAASC
Novo Nordisk, Inc.
PGA of America
Panasonic Corporation of North America
Pitney Bowes, Inc.
Robert Mapp Foundation
Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center
Russell Siblings Trust
ScholarshipAmerica
SunTrust Bank
Target Stores
The Chrysler Foundation
The Liman Foundation
The Scholarship Foundation
The Wellington Swindall Trust
Theobald Foundation
U. S. A. Funds
Wells Fargo Bank
Wish Foundation, Inc.

Take Note!

Spelman Board of Trustees Chair **Rosalind G. Brewer, C'84**, was named CEO of Sam's Club in January 2012. That historic move has made her the first woman and first African American to hold a CEO position at Walmart Stores, Inc. Since the announcement, Ms. Brewer has been featured in countless print, online and television media outlets including being ranked #13 on the 2012 *Fortune's* list of the Top 50 Most Powerful Women in Business. In September 2012, she graced the cover of *Black Enterprise Magazine's* "100 Most Powerful Executives in Corporate America" issue and was named BE's 2012 Corporate Executive of the Year. The article, "Rosalind Brewer's Second Act," highlights her illustrious career in corporate America from her 22 years at Kimberly-Clark to her bold move into retail when she joined Walmart Stores, Inc. in 2006.



Ms. Brewer was also featured on the cover of the *Atlanta Tribune's* March 2012 issue. Spelman's Executive Director of Communications, **Tomika DePriest, C'89**, wrote the feature on Ms. Brewer in the "2012 Superwomen" cover story.



Her feature in the November 2012 issue of *Essence Magazine* profiles the likable, approachable side of Ms. Brewer, one she is often praised for. In the article, "Boss Lady," Tom Falk, CEO of Kimberly-Clark said, "There is a genuineness about Roz that people can sense. She doesn't put on any pretense. She will treat you the same way in a business meeting as she would at dinner in her own home." The article also highlighted her role as Spelman's Board of Trustees chair and her passion to give back to her beloved alma mater and the community, as well as the challenging balancing act she navigates as a loving, dedicated wife and mother.

2004

Cheryl Snyder

Education: Earned a doctorate in dental surgery from Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry in Nashville, Tennessee, May 2010. Earned general practice residency certification from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, June 2011.

Married: Damon Harmon-Snyder on April 1, 2010

Birth: Third daughter, Lark Elaine Snyder, born on November 12, 2010.

2005

Jade Lane Martin

Professional: Relocated to Louisville, Kentucky, to take a new position within Raytheon Technical Services Company in March 2012. Her current title is senior quality assurance engineer II.

2006

Jasmine Martin Robinson

Married: Elijah Travis Robinson on February 11, 2012, in Las Vegas.

Lynne Howard

Professional: Received the Gerald E. Kandler Award at the 26th Annual Kandler Memorial Award Dinner held by the American Civil Liberties Union of Delaware on October 12, 2011, in Wilmington, Delaware.

Khiara Bridges

Education: Earned a law degree and a doctorate in anthropology from Columbia University Law School. She was also featured in *Bostonia Magazine*.

Schnavia Smith Hatcher

Professional: Named director of the Center for African American Studies at the University of Texas at Arlington, effective July 1, 2012.

2007

Terricha Bradley

Married: James Phillips on November 20, 2011 in Jackson, Mississippi.

Professional: Suburban reporter for *The Clarion-Ledger* newspaper in Jackson, Mississippi.

Eniola Mafe

Professional: Named one of the 99 most influential foreign policy leaders under the age of 33 for 2012 by *The Diplomatic Courier*, *A Global Affairs Magazine*.

Rachelle Kirby Scott

Professional: Selected as one of the 40 under 40 for Albany, Georgia. A luncheon in honor of the 40/40 recipients was held at the Doublegate Country Club on May 4, 2012.

2008

Erin Ann Jones

Professional: Hired by Georgia Pacific as a corporate college recruiter. She's responsible for recruiting for more than 25 focus schools for the company.

2009

April Curry

Married: Anthony Roberts on August 6, 2011, at the First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Her wedding announcement was featured in the March 19, 2012, issue of *Jet Magazine*.

Littane Bien-Aime

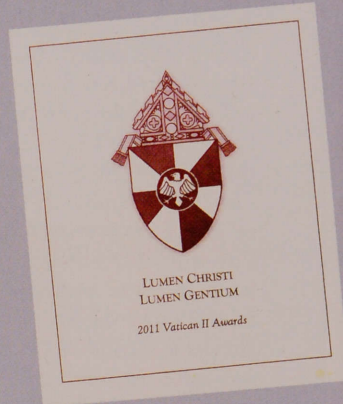
Professional: Selected as one of 20 Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellows in March of 2012. She will join the U.S. Foreign Service as a diplomat upon graduation from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Kyla Marshall

Professional: Participated in and led a poetry workshop for Spelman's Aunt Chloe Week which began April 1, 2012, with the third release of its literary publication, *Aunt Chloe: A Journal of Artful Candor*. Ms. Marshall is the winner of the Zora Neale Hurston-Langston Hughes Award, and the first recipient of the Edith A. Hambie Poetry Award given at Spelman through the Academy of American Poets.

Take Note!

Shawnee Daniels-Sykes, C'83, received the prestigious Vatican II Award for Service in Society on November 8, 2011, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Ms. Daniel-Sykes is the first and only female African-American Catholic bioethicist in the nation. This honor is awarded to recipients who have an outstanding record of involvement in either direct service, advocacy, empowerment, or justice education; have an ability to articulate Vatican II values to the Catholic community through word and action; and have a practical and working approach to the Consistent Life Ethic.



Allison Green, C'87, was named to *Savoy Magazine's* 2012 Top 100 Most Influential Blacks in Corporate America. Ms. Green is senior vice president for diversity and inclusion for Lincoln Financial Group. In her role she oversees the company's diversity and inclusion practices that influence the workplace, marketplace and the communities where Lincoln Financial operates. She also oversees diversity and inclusion strategy and implementation.

The late **Varnette Honeywood, C'71**, was featured in an Entertainment Pop Quiz in the July 9, 2012, issue of *Jet Magazine*. The quiz featured several acclaimed painters, singers, dancers and poets and their mainstream entertainment moments.



(8) Varnette Honeywood not only provided paintings for the TV set of *227* and *The Cosby Show*, she also illustrated a line of children's books built around this character.

- A. Anansi**
- B. Little Bill**
- C. Bobby Generic**

Kia Smith, C'2004, and Erin Harper, C'2002, were featured in the article, "Unzipped: Men and Women Get Real," in the October 2012 issue of *Ebony Magazine*. The piece included "Single Ladies," a roundtable discussion with six heterosexual women sharing their perspective on the state of dating and relationships.



Danielle Deadwyler, C'2003, made her feature film debut as Erica Moses in *A Cross to Bear*. The film was produced by Nina Holiday Entertainment where Davida Campbell, C'2011, serves as production manager. The movie, which also stars actress Kim Fields, premiered on GMC (formerly the Gospel Music Channel) on February 18, 2012.

Ieshaah Murphy, C'09, successfully won her case when she served as a student-lawyer at Harvard Law School in April 2012. The three-day jury trial took place at the Dorchester Division Court. Ms. Murphy co-represented a defendant charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. She is also a two-time national moot court champion.

On May 23, 2012, in Boston, Michelle Bailey, C'89, received the National Association for Multi-Ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC) Luminary Award. She was one of 12 television executives from across the country recognized with this distinguished honor for business acumen and managerial expertise and for demonstrating leadership exemplifying NAMIC's mission of championing equality and inclusion in the workforce. Ms. Bailey is vice president of corporate market research for BET Networks.



Clairton's champions taking trip to D.C.

By MICHAEL DIVITTORIO
Daily News Staff Writer
mdivittorio@dailynewsemail.com

Jacqueline Wellington-Moore, C'53, was quoted in the article, "Clariton's Champions Taking Trip to D.C.," in the *Daily News* on April 10, 2012. The piece highlighted the Clairton High School's football championship team's upcoming visit to the White House spearheaded by the NAACP's Clairton branch.

Clairton High School's three-time PIAA Class A football champions are headed to the nation's capital Saturday.

NAACP's Clairton branch is spearheading the trip to Washington, D.C., in honor of the Bears' record-breaking 47 consecutive game winning streak and multiple state championships.

"I felt they needed this kind of honor to go to the White House and possibly see the president," said Clairton branch member Jacqueline Wellington-Moore. "They've been to Harrisburg so many times, and I thought we'd expand beyond Harrisburg. (The team's) a shining accomplishment in the history of Clairton. We thought it would be a great honor for these guys."

Approximately 54 people will depart from Clairton Education Center Saturday at 4 a.m. and return sometime that evening.



ALICE WALKER SPELMAN COLLEGE

The future Pulitzer Prize winner arrived at the all-female Atlanta campus in 1961 at age 17 with three gifts from her mother: a sewing machine, a suitcase and a typewriter. Like Giovanni, Walker was drawn to the Civil Rights Movement and participated in protests alongside John Lewis and Julian Bond, both of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). In 1964 Walker transferred to Sarah Lawrence College, outside New York City. While there she completed *Once*, her first poetry collection, which was published in 1968.

Alice Walker, C'65, was highlighted in "Patrick's Picks: Head of the Class" as one of three famous writers who started their careers at HBCUs.

Take Note!

Daphne Smith, C'80, is the new president of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College (NAASC). She's shared her passion and dedication to the organization by serving in all levels of the NAASC and in all areas of the NAASC mission. In 2011, she was awarded the NAASC Hall of Fame Award, the organization's highest honor. In her current role as president, she also serves as a representative to the Spelman College Board of Trustees. Ms. Smith's goals and initiatives for the organization include increasing alumnae connections and membership, providing NAASC Regional Conferences and encouraging chapter Founders Day events, ongoing support of the NAASC Donald M. Stewart Endowed Scholarship and scholarship support for Spelman students. She will be engaging Generation Next and collaborating with the Spelman UNCF Pre-Alumnae Council.

Upon her first arrival at Spelman, she attended a pre-freshman summer science program that was led by Chair of the Division of Natural Sciences, Dr. Etta Z. Falconer. She cited Dr. Falconer as an inspiration (as a pioneering African American female mathematician). With her encouragement, Ms. Smith became the first Spelman graduate to earn a doctorate in mathematics. Ms. Smith is currently a healthcare analyst at Alere Health, LLC.



LT. J. G. LA'SHANDA JONES
Coast Guard

SPECIALTY: Search & Rescue

With her place in Black history already firmly secured (as the Coast Guard's first African-American female helicopter pilot) Holmes is a rising star, literally, thanks to a mighty MH-65 Dolphin copter.

REAR ADM. MICHELLE HOWARD
Navy

SPECIALTY: Leading a Naval Ship

Howard was at the helm of the vessel that rescued the

kidnapped captain of a ship attacked by Somali pirates two years ago. Not surprisingly, the first Black woman to command a Navy ship has 22 officers, 307 sailors and 402 Marines under her command.



LT. CMDR. NIEVA M. S. BROCK
Navy

SPECIALTY: Criminal Prosecution / NCIS

This Latina's rise from foster child to high-powered Naval investigator would make a good episode of the CBS show about the agency. But this is not the stuff of prime-time TV. Brock is a groundbreaking leader in gathering evidence against thousands of war criminals in conflict-torn places like Iraq.



BRIG. GEN. MARY J. KNIGHT
National Guard, California

SPECIALTY: Disaster Relief

She took command of a 21,000-member force, the largest in the country, when she became the National Guard's top Black female officer. She will lead disaster-relief rescue teams into areas hit by floods and hurricanes.

La'Shanda Jones, C'2007, was pictured in the March 19, 2012, issue of *Jet Magazine* in the news feature, "A Soldier's Story." Jones is the Coast Guard's first African American female helicopter pilot.



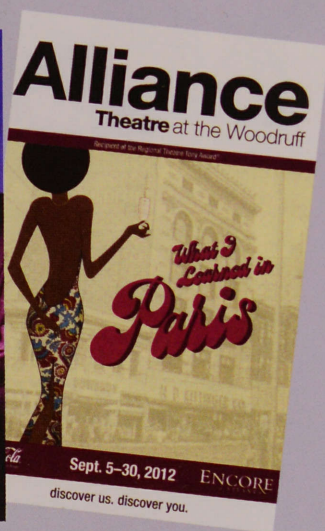
PHOTO: GERMAINE MCAULLEY

Miss Marguerite Simon, C'35, marked her 100th Birthday on October 30, 2012. In a *Messenger* (Fall 2004) article titled "Wise Words from Miss Simon" by **Patricia Graham Johnson, C'73**, Miss Simon shared this insight on longevity. "The driving force in my life is the regard for the people that came before me. They set the standard of quality and I tried to perform the very best that I could. I tried to maintain that standard." According to Miss Simon's philosophy, we can all become wise. Just keep living. Pictured left to right: **Taronda Spencer, C'80**, **Eloise Alexis, C'86**, **Heather Hawes, C'89**, **Marguerite Simone, C'35**, **Sharon Owens, C'76**


A portrait of actress Janelle Monáe. She has dark, wavy hair with bangs and is wearing a grey tank top with a white neckline. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.



Actress **Cassi Davis**, **C'2009**, starred in the play, *In the Midnight Hour: The Music of Wilson Pickett*, in September 2012, at the Porter Sanford III Performing Arts Center.



Pearl Cleage's, C'71, latest play, *What I Learned in Paris*, debuted at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta in September 2012. The Atlanta love story set in 1973 features a five-person ensemble cast that weaves an engaging tale of politics and passion. Actress **Zuri Adele, C'2012**, was an understudy for two of the roles. Earlier in the year, Ms. Cleage was featured in the Alumnae Voices Leaders on Leadership Speaker Series – 2012, where she spoke on April 23, 2012, in Cosby Auditorium.



Zuri Adele, C'2012

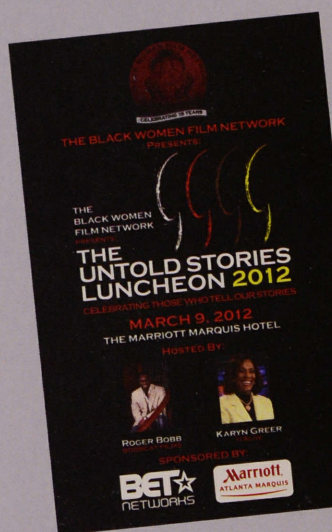


Zuri Adele, C'2012

Spelman College was listed in the 2012 HBCU Special under Top Liberal Arts Schools in the September 2012 issue of *Ebony* magazine. **Alice Walker, C'65, Tina McElroy Ansa, C'71, Pearl Cleage, C'71, Kimberly B. Davis, C'81, Marian Wright Edelman, C'60, Christine King Farris, C'48, Varnette Honeywood, C'71, Esther Rolle, C'42, and Shaun Robinson, C'84,** were listed as notable alumnae.

The Southern Nevada Museum of Fine Art at Neonopolis (Las Vegas) hosted an author discussion and reception for **Lori Beard-Daily's, C'85**, debut novel, *Destination D*, on January 28, 2012. Ms. Beard-Daily was also nominated for the 48th Georgia Author of the Year Award, one of the most prestigious literary awards in the nation and the oldest in the Southeastern United States.

Joy Brunson, C'2010, was in an episode of "Army Wives" on Lifetime Television that aired in March 2012. She also appeared in the movie *October Baby*, which opened in theaters March 23, 2012.



Layli Maparyan, C'86, was appointed the new Katherine Stone Kaufmann '67 executive director of the Wellesley Centers for Women, one of the largest and most influential organizations conducting scholarly research and developing action programs centered on women's and girls' perspectives. She left Georgia State University where she served as associate professor in the Women's Studies Institute and associated faculty of the Department of African American Studies. She began her new position on July 1, 2012.

Sheena Young, C'2004, unveiled her new line of eco-friendly, convertible footwear called the Nael Coce Ambi Collection in February 2012. The high-heeled shoes have built-in flat shoes that are comfortable and have anti-bacterial features. Ms. Young showcased the shoes at a launch party at the Milan Restaurant and Lounge in Baltimore. The event featured a fashion show and performance by Grammy-nominated singer, Mario.

Blogger and social media guru **Renee Ross, C'92**, was featured in the August 2011 issue of *Ebony Magazine*. The article, "Grooving Into Shape," shared her fitness routine that moved her from a size 16 to a 10. Ms. Ross was also featured in the January 2012 issue of *Upscale Magazine* where she offered more fitness tips and was included in the *Jet Magazine* Mother's Day issue for her blog, Cutiebootycakes.blogspot.com. She also writes at ReneeJRoss.net and is a 2012 United Nations Foundation Social Good Fellow and serves as Vice President of the Violence Unsilenced Board of Directors.

Traci Blackwell, C'90, vice president of current programs at the CW Network, and **Saptosa Foster, C'98**, managing partner of the 135th Street Agency, were honored at the Black Women Film Network's annual Untold Stories Awards Luncheon on March 9, 2012, at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Atlanta. The luncheon commemorates the achievements of women in film, television and entertainment industries, honors those who support expanding opportunities for women and serves as a fundraiser for Black Women Film Network scholarships. Ms. Blackwell received the Pinnacle Award and Ms. Foster was honored with the Innovator Award.



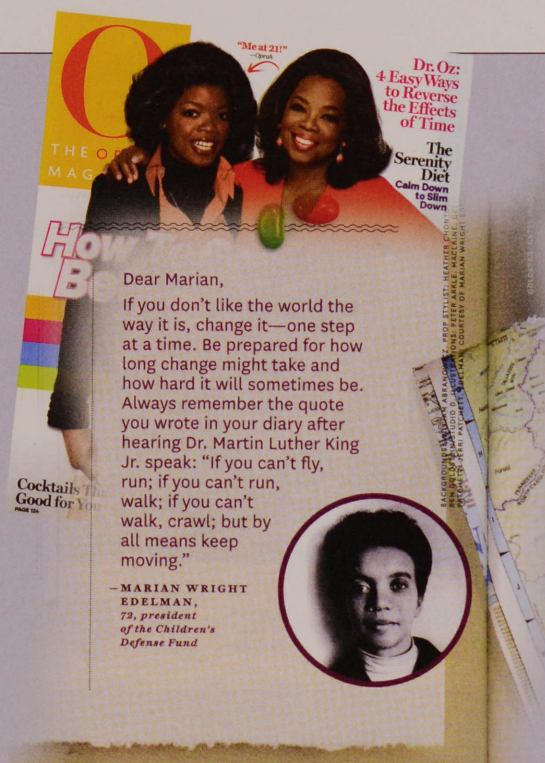
Family Congratulations After Debut: Surrounded by members of her family after her brilliant debut at New York's Town Hall, coloratura soprano Mattiwilda Dobbs gets praise from her sisters, Mrs. Josephine Clement (l.) and Mrs. June Butts (r.), and a kiss from proud papa John W. Dobbs.

This *Jet* magazine vintage photo of **Mattiwilda Dobbs-Janzon, C'46**, with her sisters **Josephine Clement, C'37**, **June Butts, C'48**, and their father, John W. Dobbs, after her debut at New York's Town Hall was used to highlight Mattiwilda Dobbs-Janzon on a YouTube channel featuring 16 performance videos.



Coca Cola executive **Helen Smith Price, C'79**, (left) personally delivered a Spelman gift bag to Olympic gold medalist Gabrielle (Gabby) Douglas during the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London. They were pictured on the TMZ website along with Gabby's mother.

Marian Wright Edelman, C'60, was featured in the May 2012 issue of *O, The Oprah Magazine*. She is one of 17 accomplished women and men who shared a letter of advice to their former 25-year-old self in the article, "A Thing or Two I Wish I Knew." Ms. Edelman was also inducted into the South Carolina Academy of Authors in April 2012.

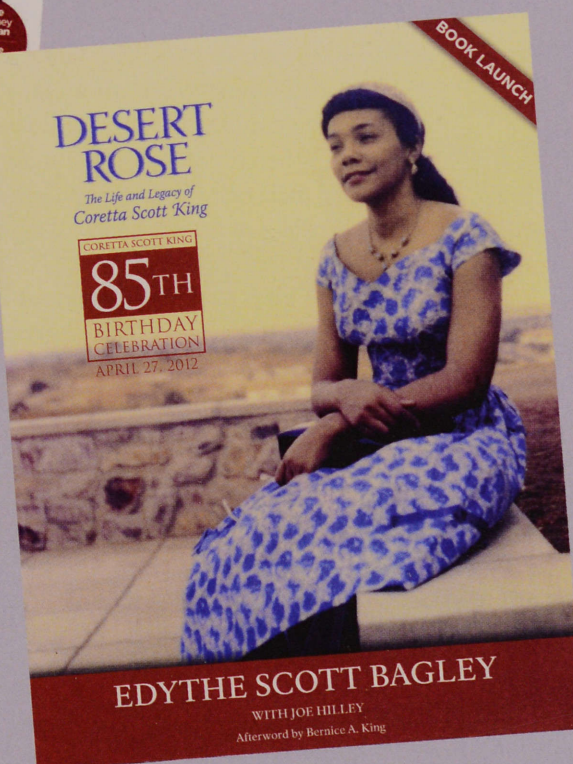


Robin Young, C'97, a certified financial planner and president of Women Behaving Wealthy in New York was featured in the March 2012 issue of *Black Enterprise*. Ms. Young is quoted in the article, "Peek In Your Purse," offering financial advice and says in the piece that a "purse check" is one way women can do a quick financial assessment. She also adds that money is personal and emotional — and what you carry around every day says a lot about your relationship with it.

Lezli Harvell, C'2000, was featured in the article "Champions for Children: The Harvells Marry Prowess in Business and Medicine to Create a Socially Conscious Pediatric Dental Practice" in the February 2012 issue of *Black Enterprise*. The article highlighted Ms. Harvell and husband, Christopher Harvell's, company, Dental Kidz, and their viable business model for helping others. They were also nominated for the 2012 Black Enterprise Small Business Award.



Christine King Farris, C'48, **Bernice King, C'85**, and **Angela Farris Watkins, C'86**, hosted the *Desert Rose: The Life and Legacy of Coretta Scott King* book launch and celebration of Coretta Scott King's 85th birthday on April 27, 2012, at The King Center in Atlanta. The book was written by Ms. King's sister, Edythe Scott Bagley. Congressman John Lewis, Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and recording artist Jennifer Holiday participated in the event; and President William Clinton, Hillary Rodham Clinton and Maya Angelou provided video tributes.



Celebrating the Tradition of Excellence

One of my favorite parts of our Reunion/Commencement weekend is standing on our historic Campus Oval to watch the graduating class join the sisterhood of Spelman alumnae as they pass under the Alumnae Arch for the very first time. The excitement and pride on the faces of the new graduates is mirrored by the joy of the reunion alumnae who lead the procession. The sea of white dresses and black regalia against the green of the Oval, the red brick of the buildings that encircle the campus, and the bright blue of the sunny sky creates a stunning visual image of Spelman College at its best – a beautiful community of women who know firsthand the transformative power of a Spelman education and embody its tradition of achievement and excellence.

The intergenerational strength of sisterhood is evident as the oldest alumna leads the parade – this year it was a member of the class of 1938. The Spelman College she graduated from was an institution of less than 500 students, the majority of whom came from Georgia. Today our enrollment is nearly 2,100, hailing from every state in the nation and several foreign countries. In 1938, Read Hall and the Rockefeller Fine Arts Building did not exist. Today, we are raising funds and are planning the renovation and expansion of both buildings, both more than 50 years old, to accommodate the 21st century needs of our students.

When the Diamond Daughters of 1952 and 1957 passed by, I was impressed by how many had returned for reunion. They remember an era of “hats, gloves and daily compulsory chapel services,” all of which had faded away by the late 1960s. Yet, time has not faded their affection for Spelman. The class of 1952 took the award for highest class participation at 59 percent, and the class of 1957 made the largest class gift of \$107,102. The class of 1962 was in rare form, as they claimed the honored status of “Golden Girls” and at the Golden Girl Tea that followed the march through the Alumnae Arch, they gushed with excitement not only about the physical changes they saw on campus, but the curricular ones as well. In 1962, it was rare for Spelman students to have the opportunity to travel abroad. However, today we have the Gordon-Zeto Center for Global Education and the expectation that every student in the class of 2015 will have a meaningful international experience before she graduates.

The Silver Sisters of 1987 laughed as they shared stories at reunion about racing to be in their residence halls before curfew, but the class of 1992 was the last class to know that experience. Curfew was eliminated in 1992. Some women of the class of 2002 marched through the Arch with their line sisters, women with whom they pledged a sorority while on campus, an experience unknown to those who graduated in 1977 or before. Sororities officially came to Spelman in 1978.

When the class of 2007 marched through the arch, they did so as the “babies” of reunion, celebrating their first five years as alumnae. Yet, they were the bearers of a new song, “A Choice to Change the World,” penned by Sarah Stephens, C’2007, and introduced by the Spelman College Glee Club on Founders Day 2008 as we celebrated the College’s 127th anniversary. Today Sarah’s song is regularly sung with pride by students at Founders Day and Commencement, along with the Spelman Hymn, the school anthem created generations before by Eddye Money Shivery, C’34.

The march through the Alumnae Arch reminds me that no alumna returns to an institution exactly like the one she left. To paraphrase the Greek philosopher, Heraclitus, we can never step in the same river twice. Spelman, like a river, is always changing, changed by our presence in it, and by what has happened after we depart, and we ourselves are always changing, never exactly the same as we were when we first stepped in. And that is as it should be, because every healthy organism must grow to maintain its health. When growth ceases, decline begins. Yet even as change is constant, what the March Through the Arch also makes visible each May is the enduring tradition of excellence embodied in the lives of Spelman graduates, and the everlasting love of Spelman College in the hearts of the daughters who return home once more. Truly that is something to celebrate!

Beverly Daniel Tatum
President of Spelman College

2012

Reunion



The class of 1957 made the largest gift of \$107,102.



The class of 1952 took the award for highest class participation at 59 percent.



The graduating class join the sisterhood of Spelman alumnae as they pass under the Alumnae Arch for the very first time.

BY WAY OF THE SPELMAN WALK



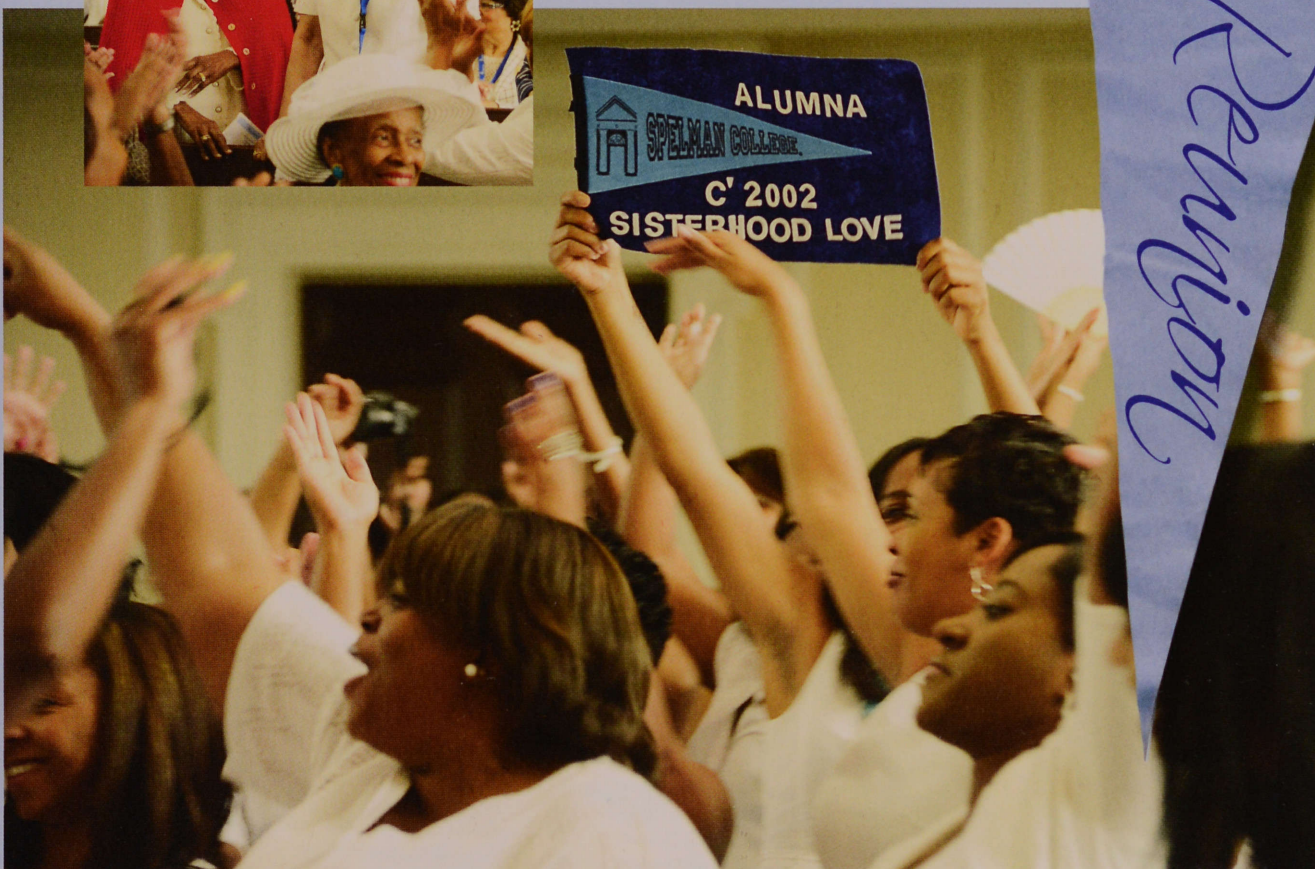
Below: The Granddaughters Club members observe Reunion and Commencement 2012 as Georgia Smith Dickens, C'42, is joined by her niece Jane Smith, C'68. Above: Likewise, Sharon Owens, C'76, celebrates the graduation of her niece Briana Bowie, C'2012.





CONVOCATION
2012

Reunion



BY WAY OF THE SPELMAN WALK



The intergenerational strength of sisterhood is evident as the oldest leads the parade -- this year, it was a member of the class of 1938.

The 2012 Reunion keynote address By Way of the Spelman Walk was presented by Taneya Gethers Muhammad, C' 2002, shown here with her youngest of three daughters Chinua Anasa, nine weeks old.



1967 1972 1977 1982 1987 1992 1997 2002 2007

The Golden Girl Class of 1962

Sandra Banks Anderson
Shirley Thomas Andrews
Lula Belle Arney
Patricia Battle Austin
Joan Barnwell Battle
Merdis Davis Burns
Doris J. Barr
Yvonne Tucker Caldwell
Barbara Adams Carney
Patricia White Chatard
Patricia Ware Childers
Barbara Young Coles
Carolyn Parham Davis
Clara Dodson Delaney
Helen Ruth Dennis
Alice Doanes
Betty Howell Dunaway
Gwendolyn Eagleson
Muriel Ruth Williams Ferguson
Dorothy Clements Fletcher
Ernestine Christian Fomby
Idella R. Fryar
Alma Willis Fulton
Jean Wilborn George
Henri Lynn Coleman Gordon
Aramintha J. Hamilton Grant
Edith Irvins Hampton
Minnie L. Riley Harris
Gwendolyn Wales Hathaway
Angelique Lewis Hood
Priscilla Rowe Huff
Annette Y. Hightower Huffman
Salliann Pollock Hughes
Maggie Patricianne Hurd
Carolyn E. Jackson
Maudestine Simmons Jackson
Neverda English Jackson
Eleanor H. James
Genevieve Teague Jean-Pierre

Mary Alice Green Johnson
Dollie Arrington Jones
Henrietta Laster Jones
Dorothy A. Kelsey
Patricia Fletcher Knight
Bettye Clark Little
Virginia Brown Lockhart
Queen Green Lowe
Joan Few Maner
Joella Louise Marshall
Rochelle Rhodes McElroy
Elizabeth Bradshaw McKinley
Johnnie Price McPhail
Carol Ann Miller
Gwendolyn Ann Morgan-Lindsey
Delores Fambro Neal
Mary Ellis Odum
Patricia J. Pace
Billie Ann Perry
Andrea Perry-Jackson
Barbara Barnett Petty
Malinda D. Pharr
Clarella Y. Cooke Pratt
Martha E. Randall
Thomasenor Fortson Rivers
Joyce C. Rockwell
Delois Riggins Scott
Fleta Thomas Smith
Frances Smith
Olivia Cotton Smith
Anita Louise Spann-Peek
Vivien Shivers Stocks
Miriam Robinson Thierry
Barbara McCall Thomas
Anna Hankerson Thornton
Diane Attaway Vincent
Emily Cuby Eberhardt Vincent
Deborah Martin Woods
Mary Worthy



BY WAY OF THE SPELMAN WALK

Lucia Moore Bacote, C'25

February 22, 1907 – March 13, 2012

Lucia Moore Bacote was born in 1907, in Abbeville, South Carolina. She also lived in Illinois in her childhood years before settling in Atlanta. Mrs. Bacote acquired the foundation for her nursing work in the nurse training program at Spelman Seminary from 1923–1925, completing her nursing degree at University Hospital in Augusta.

After graduating in 1928, Mrs. Bacote moved back to Atlanta where joined the Metropolitan Life Insurance company in the visiting nurses division. She applied her nursing skills in homes with families, providing care instructions for newborns and sick loved ones. In 1931, she married Dr. Clarence A. Bacote, a professor at Atlanta University who, through an exchange arrangement, taught a required sophomore course in American history at Spelman for 25 years. He was regarded as a member of the Spelman faculty by generations of Spelman students. The couple had two children and had been married for 50 years before Dr. Bacote died in 1981.

Mrs. Bacote inspired and encouraged a tradition of Spelman women in the Bacote family, including her daughter, Lucia Bacote James, C'54, and granddaughter, Sarah James Irby, C'93. For nearly 90 years, she served her beloved alma mater as an alumna, volunteer and donor. In 2010, she inspired the Spelman Community by attending her 85th Class Reunion.

She was also a faithful, long-time member of Friendship Baptist Church in Atlanta. The Bacote family joined the church in 1945. She was instrumental in organizing the Friendship Baptist Church Well Baby Clinic where she and several other medical professionals provided well-baby checkups to help prevent and detect health problems in infants and children. In 2000, she was honored to receive the "Friendship Mother of the Year" award, and she shared these thoughts in the *Friendship Mirror*, "Being a mother is one of the greatest blessings that God gives to us – whether you are a biological mother or one who nurtures children and others through the times that they need you."

Funeral services for Mrs. Bacote were held on March 17, 2012, at Friendship Baptist Church.



PHOTOS: BUD SMITH

Eva Rutland, C'37

January 15, 1917 – March 15, 2012

Eva Elsie Neal Rutland was born in Atlanta on January 15, 1917, to Samuel Neal, a pharmacist, and Eva Westmoreland Neal, a teacher. She had two brothers and was raised in the house her grandfather, a former slave and successful shoemaker, built six years after the Civil War. She grew up in a comfortable African American community and attend segregated schools her entire life. Ms. Rutland majored in business during her years at Spelman College, but her love was drama. She graduated from the College in 1937.

In 1943, she married her late husband, William G. "Bill" Rutland, a civilian logistics officer for the Tuskegee Army. His military career led them to settle in Sacramento, California, where they raised their four children – Elsie, William Jr. and twins Patty-Jo and Ginger.

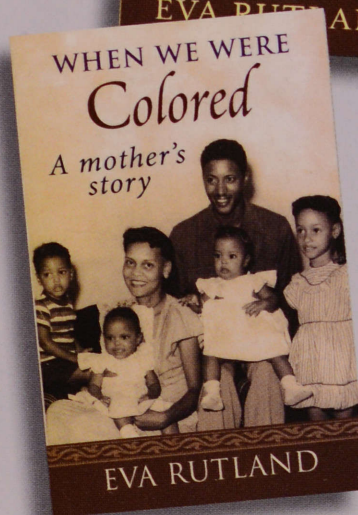
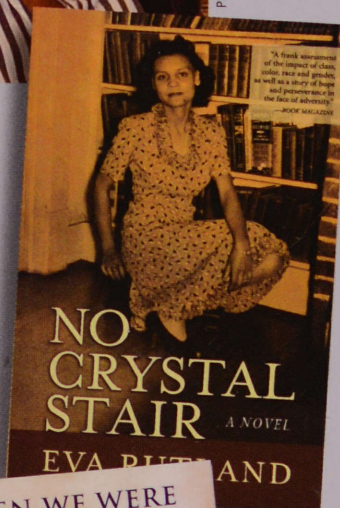
Ms. Rutland captured humorous, heartfelt stories about her family life and published them in popular women's magazines including *Ladies Home Journal*, *Redbook* and *Woman's Day*. After losing her sight in her early 50s to retinitis pigmentosa, Ms. Rutland used a computer with a voice synthesizer to write 25 novels. In 2000, she earned a Golden Pen Award for Lifetime Achievement. In an early issue of the *Spelman Messenger*, Ms. Rutland describes her Harlequin novels as escape literature featuring sweet romance with no sex, just emotional tension. She portrayed the Black characters in those novels as entrepreneurs and college professors. Ms. Rutland published her mainstream novel, *No Crystal Stair*, in 2000, and in 2007 she re-released her acclaimed, groundbreaking 1964 memoir, *The Trouble with Being Mama*, renamed *When We Were Colored: A Mother's Story*.

"I wanted all mothers to know that my Black children were just like their white children, filled with all the joys, and insecurities of childhood, just as precious and just as fragile," said Ms. Rutland when the book was reissued. "I think my story is as relevant today as it was when I wrote it. It goes beyond black and white. It's really about the fears that all mothers face as we struggle to raise healthy, happy, productive children." During that same year, Ms. Rutland attended Spelman's 2007 Reunion with two of her classmates from the Class of 1937. She was 90 at the time, making her one of the oldest alumnae to attend that year's graduation ceremonies.

A memorial service for Mrs. Rutland was held on March 20, 2012, at the Pioneer Congregational Church, in Sacramento.



PHOTO: JULIE YARBROUGH, C'91



In Memoriam

1937

Julia Juanita James Johnson
Educator/Guidance Counselor
Died: January 29, 2012
Services: February 5, 2012,
Bethel Missionary Baptist
Church, Tallahassee, Florida

1940

Dorothea Earby Hill
Died: December 29, 2011
Services: January 4, 2011,
Churchman Funeral Home

1946

Selsonia Smith Blatch
Educator
Died: October 23, 2011
Services: October 29, 2011,
Swanson Funeral Home,
Detroit

1949

Theresa Pickens
Died: February 22, 2012
Services: March 31, 2012,
Bethel AME Church,
Bloomfield, Connecticut

1951

Dorothy Everett
Died: December 23, 2011
Services: December 29, 2011,
Redemption Community
Church, East Point, Georgia

1957

Dorothy Kirkpatrick
Educator
Died: March 14, 2012
Services: March 19, 2012,
Emmanuel Lutheran Church,
Atlanta

Alice Scott

Librarian
Died: August 28, 2012
Services: September 1, 2012,
Cage Memorial Chapels,
Chicago

1959

Janice Bottoms Batts
Educator
Died: April 4, 2012
Services: April 10, 2012,
Radcliffe Presbyterian Church,
Atlanta

1974

Janette Yvonne King
Died: October 26, 2011
Services: November 5, 2011,
Hoosier Memorial United
Methodist Church, Atlanta

1987

Roslyn Kirby Bostick
Died: March 30, 2012
Services: April 7, 2012, Turner
Chapel A.M.E. Church,
Marietta, Georgia



PHOTO: JULIE YARBROUGH, C91

*Is solace anywhere more comforting
than in the arms of a sister?*

— Alice Walker

*Sisters are different flowers from the
same garden.*

— Author Unknown



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PHOTO BY JULIE YARBROUGH, '91

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