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Voices

“It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.”

— UNKNOWN
Eras of change often cause us to cherish the values that do not change, to reaffirm the principles that define who we are as a people and a nation. This is such a moment when we are called again to test the founding proposition of our republic that all men — and yes, all women — are truly created equal, and endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights.

“Now, America is an inspiring model of equality and justice for many in the world, but it is not nearly a perfect one. We still have miles to go. But the struggle only makes the promise matter more.

“America doesn’t mean equality of outcome, but it does mean equality of opportunity. America doesn’t guarantee you a result, but it should guarantee you a fair shot — whether you succeed or fail or wind up somewhere in between should be up to you.

“So set high goals, show some hustle, stand up for yourself, prepare better than anyone else, learn from everyone else — and when you get knocked down, pick yourself up and get back in the game. A Spelman woman should come to play. She should come to compete. And, she should compete to win.

“That’s because we need you to make the mark. We need you to become lawyers who will deepen and widen our liberties in an era of change and challenge. We need you to become engineers and scientists who will cure modern-day plagues and save our warming Earth. We need you to become business leaders and innovators who will create prosperity that works for all Americans. We need you to become teachers and professors who will instill a love of citizenship and learning in the next generation. We need you to become doctors and ministers who will bring health to wounded bodies and strength to suffering souls. And we need one of you to become the first African American woman President of the United States.

“But always remember that with greater opportunity comes greater responsibility. All of us who cheer so hard for you also expect you to give back — to continue the legacy of local, national and global service that is the Spelman way. We are confident that you will all play your part in what President Obama calls ‘a new era of responsibility’ — that you will embrace your duties to your cities and communities, to your country and the world we share.

“Ultimately, America is what we make of it. I love our great country not because it is perfect but because it is perfectible. I love America not just for the genius of its creation but also for the glory of its ongoing maturation. The American idea is not rooted in complacency or callousness. It is rooted in the belief that we can be better together and do more together. It is rooted in energy. It is rooted in daring. And it is rooted in hope.

“As I look out at you, I see more than the Class of 2010. I see another generation taking its place in the world. I see the generation after Joshua. You grew up in a country that has knocked down the legal walls that once would have held you back. In a society that isn’t yet free of the heavy hand of past injustice but is itself a powerful engine of change. So, if the Joshua generation was about coming into a brave new world, perhaps your generation will be about blazing paths along new frontiers. If the Joshua generation was about coming into the land, perhaps your generation will be about making it a truly blessed place — a story of how young people born into times of great promise shouldered their responsibilities and built mighty towers.

“But that is your story to write, not mine. I know you will write it well.”
more try at luck instead of being thankful for his redemption?

Dr. Benson, who has published 12 novels, including Sins of the Father, and The Amen Sisters, and won many awards, has worked in technology and engineering, holds two master's degrees, and a doctorate in instructional technology. She currently is an associate professor of educational technology at the University of Alabama.

**The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks**

*by Rebecca Skloot (Crown Publishers)*

A secret kept for many years has affected the lives of most of us living today. Most people have never heard of Henrietta Lacks — a poor Black woman whose story illustrates the insensitivity of racism. Yet this woman, who died in 1951, is immortal through her cells, which scientists have kept alive and multiplied by the billions, and has been instrumental in saving the lives of millions of people across the world.

Rebecca Skloot, noted science writer, who was convocation speaker at Spelman in March 2010, researched this phenomenon for the book for 10 years. She writes about the rights of people used for scientific research, the ethics and legal complications, and how minorities and poor people have been taken advantage of in past medical experiments. It was 20 years after Lacks’ death that her family even became aware of their relative’s important contribution to science.

Ms. Skloot first learned of HeLa, as the cells are known, in a biology class at age 16. Her curiosity grew as she studied biology and journalism in college, but heard little else about these cells that had been the first immortal human cells discovered. Her high school teacher had said the cells were instrumental in the advancement of modern cancer research; they were used to develop polio vaccines and chemotherapy and in treating leukemia and hemophilia, Ms. Skloot writes.

Curious, Ms. Skloot wanted to know who was this woman who seemed to disappear from scientific information channels. Where was her family? Why had she never been recognized? Who profited from the distribution of these living cells?

One source who helped the author gain access to Henrietta Lacks’ life and family was Dr. Roland Pattillo, a professor of gynecology at the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta. He had organized a symposium to honor Lacks, which Ms. Skloot discovered.

Henrietta Lacks grew up and farmed on the same land in a small Southern Virginia town that once housed her slave ancestors. She was married and the mother of five children. Poorly educated in an era of segregated schools, she and her extended family lived simple, hard-
working lives. They had little knowledge of health care and almost no access to medical care.

Lacks discovered a knot on her cervix. Not until a year later, in Baltimore, where the family had moved, was she finally sent to Johns Hopkins Hospital — the only hospital in that segregated area that accepted Black patients. She was diagnosed with cancer and treated with radium — the cancer treatment of the time. But unknown to her or her family, doctors took samples of her cervix and the tumor to be tested to see if the cells would grow outside of the body. In brief, Lacks’ healthy cells died, but the tumor cells were spreading “like crabgrass” as one lab worker put it.

From that point in 1951 on, Henrietta Lacks’ cells have been grown and distributed to medical facilities and scientists around the world. They have been bought and sold in a multimillion dollar industry.

In producing this book, Ms. Skloot has opened discussions into the question: Who controls the rights to our bodies?

The House at Sugar Beach: In Search of a Lost African Childhood

by Helene Cooper
(Simon & Schuster)

In this poignant memoir, journalist Helene Cooper writes about growing up rich and privileged in Liberia, the West African nation settled by freed American slaves in 1821.

The descendant of the founding fathers, Cooper, a New York Times correspon-
Erica Jong, Pearl Cleage, C’71, Maureen Dowd, Carol Moseley Braun, Arica Coleman, and Tim Wise, to name a few of the 42 contributors.

If it’s true that “What is past is prologue,” as William Shakespeare wrote, then this volume is sure-fire reading for anyone interested and concerned in the future of American politics and the next presidential election.

The Substance of Hope: Barack Obama and the Paradox of Progress
by William Jelani Cobb.
(Walker & Company)

William Jelani Cobb, an associate professor of history at Spelman College, opens this book with the question: Will the advent of a Black president of the United States make a difference in the American view of race relations?

Comparing the election and inauguration of the first African American President, Barack Obama, to the speech by Dr. Martin Luther King before his death in 1968, in which he predicted, “We as a people will get to the Promised Land,” Dr. Cobb writes, “For many, that inauguration in 2009 was validation of King’s promise.”

A paradox, as defined in Dictionary.com, is “a statement or proposition that seems self-contradictory or absurd but in reality expresses a possible truth.”

Dr. Cobb explores the conflicts that formed in the minds of many of the civil rights leaders who hesitated to support Obama because traditional thought and experience said a Black man was unlikely to become president. He makes historical as well as current references to how the thinking of Americans and Black people, especially, has been conditioned by racism.

He writes, “We were all frantically trying to retrofit a new reality into our old assumptions. I, at least, had thought that we would not see a Black president until the society had uniformly moved forward . . . until we were no longer disproportionately impoverished and locked out of the health care system. But as a historian, I should have known better. If anything, lopsided history is the rule, not the exception . . . .

“So what does it mean to live in a country where 64 million people voted to make a Black man a president? Does it hail the beginning of a new kind of country, one that has made good on its self-professed exceptionalism?”

Dr. Cobb answers his own questions through a reference to actor Denzel Washington’s retort to reporters in 2002 when asked “what it meant for three African Americans to be in contention for Academy Awards in the same year. He replied, ‘It means that three African Americans are in contention for Academy Awards in the same year.’

“I am tempted,” Dr. Cobb continues, “to answer the question about the meaning of a Black presidency with the same terms: It means that the President is Black. And anything beyond that will be left for time to tell.”

Angela Brown Terrell is a writer and editor based in Columbia, Maryland.
Alisha Thomas Morgan, C’2000, made headlines in 2005 when she challenged the Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives in a heated debate over voting rights—an unprecedented rebuke of the status quo turning the political landscape on its head. As some legislators shunned her, others demanded a public apology and some called for her expulsion, Morgan stood firm on her convictions, making no apologies for standing up for what was right.

Emerging victorious from this and similar political and personal challenges, Morgan has built a successful career and life. She continues to make no apologies and shares the lessons she has learned along her journey of trial and triumph in No Apologies: Lessons in Life, Love & Politics.

Whether you’re looking for practical and honest advice to help you navigate your personal or professional trajectory, a dynamic tool to help focus your life, an inside look at politics, or some inspiration to get involved in your community, “No Apologies” gives readers an unfiltered look into Morgan’s life experiences teaching us lessons that transcend life, love and politics.

Debbi Chocolate, C’76, penned the children’s book, El Barrio (Henry Holt and Company, LLC), in 2009. The book, illustrated by David Diaz, is about a young boy who explores his vibrant neighborhood. It’s a celebration of Latino culture and urban life sure to fire children’s curiosity about where they live and what they can discover in their own neighborhoods. The story is written in English but uses several Spanish words and provides a glossary for referencing. Ms. Chocolate has written more than 20 picture books.

Alisha L. Gordon, C’2004, released her first nonfiction book, Pieces: Finding the Missing Piece Is Easier Than You Think, through her independently owned publishing company, To the Nines Publishing, LLC. The book takes readers on a journey that is familiar and reflective of their own personal experiences to find the missing “pieces” in their life. Inspired by the parable of the lost coin in Luke 15:8–9, this seven-chapter ensemble deals with a major components or “pieces” of a single mother’s life that become stepping stones for growth from one chapter to the next.

Patricia A. Banks, C’98, published the book, Represent: Art and Identity Among the Black Upper-Middle Class (Routledge Research in Race and Ethnicity) in December 2009. In the book, Ms. Banks traverses the New York and Atlanta art worlds to uncover how Black identities are cultivated through Black art and patronage. She draws on more than 100 in-depth interviews, observations at arts events, and photographs of art displayed in homes, elaborating a racial identity theory of consumption that highlights how upper-middle-class Blacks forge Black identities for themselves and their children through the consumption of Black visual art. Ms. Banks challenges common assumptions about elite cultural participation, contributes to the heated debate about the significance of race for elite Blacks and illuminates recent art world developments.

Jane Jelks-Jones, C’69, wrote a heartfelt foreword to the book, Black Pearls: Lessons From a Beautiful Black Mother, (JJG Publishing) authored by her life-long friend and colleague, Dr. Edward L. Wheeler. The book consists of 24 “pearls” of wisdom, lessons and stories from Dr. Wheeler’s mother. Touching and poignant, Black Pearls is warmly familiar and enlightening, and an easy, enjoyable read. The book is dedicated to Dr. Wheeler’s wife of 40 years, Mary Susan Wheeler, C’69, and his daughters, Rolen Wheeler, C’2000 and Dawn Wheeler, C’93.
In the age of Obama, alumnae play key roles in the administration

By Tomika DePriest, C’89

Blacks’ association with the White House can be traced back to 1792 when many free and enslaved individuals were called upon to build the presidential home. And women have played a number of critical roles throughout history, from first lady Mary Lincoln’s dressmaker and stylist, Elizabeth Keckley, in the 1800s to former secretary of state Condoleezza Rice, the highest-ranking Black woman in U.S. government history, appointed in 2005.

Spelman women have also left indelible marks on the White House — women such as Audrey Forbes Manley, C’55 (first alumna president), who was deputy surgeon general in 1994 and acting surgeon general 1995–1997 during the Clinton Administration, and Marian Wright Edelman, C’60 (first alumna board chair), who was hailed by Hillary Clinton as a mentor during her husband’s administration and who was a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2000. Currently, four alumnae are building on this “true blue” tradition through their work in the Obama administration.
KIRAN AHUJA, C’93
Kiran Ahuja is leading the charge for an Executive Order dedicated to improving “the quality of life and opportunities for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders through increased access to, and participation in, federal programs in which they may be underserved.” Appointed December 14, 2009, she is responsible for advising federal agency leadership on effective strategies and tactics for implementation of programs and services. Raised in Savannah, Georgia, Ahuja credits Spelman with heightening her knowledge, awareness and activism around issues of race, gender and class.

“Spelman taught me to be a strong and dynamic leader. My professors taught me to work hard, be critical of what I saw around me, and serve as a good example to my peers,” said Ms. Ahuja. “I would not be where I am today, serving as the executive director of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, without their support and positive influence.”

Ms. Ahuja points to her office’s effort to help Southeast Asian Americans and other minority communities in the Gulf impacted by the oil spill as the greatest accomplishment to date. “Unknown to many, there are thousands of Southeast Asian Americans (particularly Vietnamese Americans) who are fisher folk and work in the seafood industry. Their lives have not only been devastated by Hurricane Katrina, but four years later they are struggling to save a way of life they have known for more than 30 years and to stay afloat because of the oil spill,” she explained. She works with a team to ensure community members and federal agencies are serving local Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the Gulf. The goal is to make certain that they are represented throughout the recovery process and that information is translated into appropriate languages so the community stays informed about resources [and] opportunities.”

Ms. Ahuja says she enjoys her job very much because she gets to remove barriers and improve access to federal resources for an underserved population. “The AAPI community is diverse and complex with over 50 different ethnic subgroups and 100 different languages, and it faces numerous challenges that often go unnoticed,” she noted.

Ms. Ahuja cites several Spelman mentors and professors with “stretching” her and helping her to further develop as a leader. “Dr. Johnnetta Cole was president at the time, and she had a powerful impact on many of us. We looked up to her; we thought she was an incredible leader,” she said. “In addition, I admired many of my professors: Drs. Jeanne Meadows, Marilyn Davis and Desiree Pedescaleux. They displayed a lot of integrity, sensibility and passion, and that definitely influences the kind of person I try to be everyday in my personal life and in my work with the initiative and on behalf of Asian American Pacific Islander populations in America.”

RUSSLYNN ALI, C’91
On May 1, 2009, Russlynn Ali was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as assistant secretary for civil rights, serving as primary adviser to Secretary Arne Duncan and responsible for enforcement of U.S. civil rights laws as they relate to education and for making certain that institutions receiving federal funding do not discriminate based on race, sex, disability or age. A nationally known advocate prior to her nomination to the post by President Obama, Ms. Ali formerly served as a vice president at Education TrustWest in Oakland, California. Her focus there was on closing the achievement gap in the state, and increasing curriculum and instructional quality. In addition, the former teacher
Ms. Ali points to Dr. Lois Moreland as one of her most significant mentors, noting her grace and quiet strength as key attributes to emulate.

advised legislative and gubernatorial staff.

"Russlynn brings passion for, expertise in and dedication to equality and fairness in education, and her tireless work and commitment have changed the lives of low-income students from across the nation. I very much look forward to working with her," said Secretary Duncan, upon the formal announcement of her nomination.

Her background as a lawyer and teacher has prepared her well for her current opportunity. Ms. Ali practiced corporate and civil rights law and served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Southern California School of law prior to entering the nonprofit sector. Although some critics are uncomfortable with the notion of using civil rights laws to deal with the problems of resegregation in American schools, Ms. Ali stands firmly behind the Obama administration’s objective to address the issue of non-enforcement of these laws. “The challenge is to reinvigorate the civil rights office and doing what’s right and fair for America,” she told an audience at the NAACP convention in Kansas City this year. Elaborating in a conversation with Mike Petrilli, which he posted in the Thomas B. Fordham Institute’s Flypaper, she added, “It’s about culture change. No one’s ever tried to put robust remedies in place. We have to monitor the districts, enforce the agreement [and] use all the tools at the disposal of the civil rights office.”

Ms. Ali points to Dr. Lois Moreland as one of her most significant mentors, noting her grace and quiet strength as key attributes to emulate. “As I work to mentor young people now, I often reflect on what Dr. M. would do … and then try to stretch and do it,” said the one-time liaison to Marian Wright Edelman of the Children’s Defense Fund, adding that Spelman values such as “teamwork and teambuilding, loyalty, commitment to public service and a tireless work ethic” are also part of who she has become today.

Noting that her days start early in the morning with “too much coffee” and time for meditation and reflection, and ends “late at night by reviewing my next day’s briefing book in preparation for a day packed with meetings and deliverables,” it is clear she stands ready for the challenge.

“Personally, every day I go to bed humbled to sit on this perch at a time when both the President and the Secretary of Education have said education is the civil rights issue of our time. My sense of urgency is great, and my sense of responsibility is greater still.”

KRISTEN JARVIS, C’2003

Kristen Jarvis is to first lady Michelle Obama what a GPS system is for those who have them — an excellent navigator. As a special assistant for scheduling and a traveling aide for Mrs. Obama, she puts in many miles handling important details — from trips abroad with special guests such as Oprah Winfrey to swank state dinners. “There’s no time to get sick,” Ms. Jarvis told a Newsweek reporter in 2009. “You’re on call.” Her influence spans the East and West Wings. Some of the young professionals working in the administration were hired by Ms. Jarvis during her time in Obama’s Senate office. The list includes Joshua DuBois, current executive director of the White House faith office, health reform director Jeanne Lambrew and political director Patrick Gaspard — to name a few.

Before she landed in her current role supporting first lady Mrs. Obama, Ms. Jarvis spent time as a special assistant to the chief of staff and as deputy chief of staff to Senator Barack Obama from 2004 to 2007. She has also served as a staffer for former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle prior to working for Senator Obama. During the campaign, she served as a scheduler in Nevada and on the press advance team, and then worked with Mrs. Obama during the general election.

Mike Strautmanis, Ms. Jarvis’ former supervisor in Obama’s senate office, commented in an article: “I worried a lot about the first lady as the campaign continued and all of our lives changed. I wanted her to be around people who would take care of her; and I knew Kristen would take care of her.” He added, “She has a maturity that is uncommon not only for someone of her age but for anyone.”

Not quite 30, Ms. Jarvis already has an impressive career in politics and governmental service. As a young African American woman she has achieved more in her short years than some will in a lifetime. From the trip to Copenhagen to make the case for Chicago hosting the 2016 Olympics to the first family trip to Ghana to the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Ms. Jarvis has shared intimate moments with the first family and the first lady as a critical aide.
She described an election night experience to a reporter, who recorded it as follows: “When we got to the hotel, I think they had just called Virginia. Right after [Obama] gave the speech, I said ‘Congratulations, Senator,’ and I stopped because I was wrong. I looked back, and then he gave me a look like, ‘Wow, I am the president.’

KRYSTLYN WHIGHAM, C’2007

Kristlyn Whigham was a spring intern in the White House in 2009 and worked in the communications office of First Lady Michelle Obama. She is currently a student in the graduate journalism program at Georgetown University, building on her degree in political science from Spelman and her experience as the former editor-in-chief of the *Spotlight*.

“As an intern in the First Lady’s Press Office, I was responsible for daily news clips and media monitoring. The position required that I get up very early to have the news clips ready for the staff. I also had the opportunity to assist with interviews and press events,” explained Ms. Whigham. “[Working in] the Obama administration was such an amazing experience. Furthermore, the opportunity to work in the office of the first African American First Lady was incredible. I interned in her office when she launched ‘Let’s Move,’ so I was able to witness firsthand the enthusiasm and excitement the American people feel for her.”

Ms. Whigham says Spelman provided her with a strong foundation academically and socially, enhancing her sense of community and responsibility. “Spelman College has shown me that nothing is impossible. With hard work and dedication, I can accomplish any goal,” she revealed, citing Ms. Renita Mathis, associate director of communications at Spelman and former advisor to the *Spotlight*, as an important mentor. “From the very moment that we step onto campus, they provide an environment that pushes us to reach towards the heavens, without forgetting those who came before us, and those that will come after.”

Ms. Whigham wants students and alumnae to know that it is never too early or too late to pursue an interest in politics. Find an organization and volunteer, pursue an internship with a congressman, she advises. “Politics is an occupation that has a direct impact on our lives so I think it’s important that more people become involved, and with the election of the president you are seeing younger Americans take an interest, as well as more African Americans.”

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

President Obama Appoints Major Harris, C’64, to Key Administration Post

**Major General Marcelite Harris, C’64, has been appointed to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy.**

Major Harris retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1997 as the highest-ranking woman officer in the Air Force and the Nation’s highest ranking African American woman in the Department of Defense. General Harris’ distinguished career in the service included many “firsts,” as she was the first woman aircraft maintenance officer; one of the first two women air officers commanding at the U.S. Air Force Academy and the Air Force’s first woman vice commander for maintenance. Her service medals and decorations include the Bronze Star, the Presidential Unit Citation, and the Vietnam Service Medal. Upon retirement from the Air Force, General Harris served NASA as the Florida site director and logistics process owner for the company managing the Nation’s Shuttle Program, United Space Alliance. She is now Treasurer of the Atlanta Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and serves as a director on the board of Peachtree Hope Charter School. In 1999, General Harris was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from Spelman College, where she had previously earned her B.A. in speech and drama. She also holds a B.S. in business management from the University of Maryland University College.
Alumnae on Capitol Hill

Shaping political progress with a passion to serve

By Renita Mathis

At the east end of the National Mall in Washington, D.C., sits Capitol Hill, the epicenter of where laws are made and political battles are fought. It is home to lobbyists, journalists, our U.S. Congress and Legislature of the federal government.

It is also home for at least eight Spelman women who have by plan or happenstance made their career selection to be part of the political process. With a passion to serve, these dedicated Spelman alumnæ — Nicole Y. Williams, C’2000, Jocelyn Griffin, C’2003, Janel George, C’99, Alyssa Gowens, C’2002, Lara Cole, C’2004, Ashli Scott Palmer, C’2001, Rosemary Enobakhare, C’2008, Caren Angela Howard, C’2007 — are profiled in their respective duties. From law to communications to administration, these women are carving their future out to become the players on the Hill.
Nicole Y. Williams, C’2000, the Lady’s Wordsmith, creates the messaging for California’s 9th District Representative.

To work in politics, one has to have a strong desire to know what’s going on in the world. That is the philosophy of Nicole Williams who works as communications director for U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee (D-California). From creating press releases, scheduling press conferences, and writing speeches to media pitching, media monitoring and Web site design, Ms. Williams’ days are both demanding and fulfilling.

“My day generally begins around 6 a.m.; however, it has been as early as 3 a.m., and there have been occasions where I go all night into the next morning,” said Ms. Williams, a music major who toured with the Spelman Jazz Ensemble. “I have no regrets. I have learned so much and met so many wonderful people.”

Those wonderful people include Vice President Joe Biden, first lady Michelle Obama, and the late Dorothy Height. As a music major at Spelman, Ms. Williams’ plans had included working in a museum like the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. She even did a stint as an intern at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. However, after graduation those plans changed.

“My transition into politics wasn’t that far-fetched,” said Ms. Williams, who served as vice president of her senior class as well as with SGA and other political activities in Atlanta and her hometown of Cleveland. “I had interned for Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones – then Cuyahoga County prosecutor – prior to attending Spelman.”

Despite her busy schedule, she remains committed to Spelman, having served as president of the Washington, D.C., Metro Area Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College. “The chapter has been and continues to be a tremendous support. Despite everything that is going on, I can always count on my Spelman sisters.”

At one time considered a workaholic, she has found balance. “With the passing of my former boss, Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones, I realized that life is too short, and you have to take time for yourself and for the ones you love,” Ms. Williams said. “In each experience I have learned so many valuable lessons that I will carry with me for life, and I am truly thankful.”

Ashli Scott Palmer, C’2001
Perfect Fit for Politics

For the past eight years, Ashli Scott Palmer has worked in the office of U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-South Carolina). From staff assistant to office manager to senior legislative assistant, she is one of the congressman’s point person’s on hot-button issues. The 2001 graduate daily juggles a portfolio of constituent concerns and meetings, as well as briefings with the congressman.

“Ashli Palmer is a key player on my congressional team. She is our go-to staffer on health care and immigration issues – two areas that have received a lot of attention this year,” said Rep. Spratt. “Despite the heated debates and super-charged rhetoric surrounding these issues, Ashli always keeps her cool and explains the issues to our constituents in a way that they understand and appreciate.”

This is not at all what she imagined she would be doing while attending Spelman. Ms. Palmer was set to pursue a more creative line of work. “I definitely didn’t think that I’d be working in politics,” said the English major.
“During my school days, I imagined being a fashion buyer or a curator in a museum.”

Her mother says the same thing about her. “I didn’t really imagine Ashli going into politics, but now that she has, I think it’s a perfect fit,” said Irma Scott. “I love Ashli’s easy going manner. She has blossomed into a capable problem solver who gets the job done.

Besides wishing she would have taken some government or political science classes, Palmer has no regrets about her career path. She says her goal is to be the best staffer to her boss that she can be, which means being able to multitask and readying herself to become a chief of staff, the top congressional office position.

“I love working in politics, but I don’t think I would ever run for office,” said the newlywed whose husband also works on the Hill. “I am a behind-the-scenes worker bee, and I work tirelessly to help Congressman Spratt be prepared and ready for whatever he is facing on the Hill.”

While taking more classes in government could have benefits, Ms. Palmer credits her English classes with her success. She acknowledges that the classes enabled her to write concisely and clearly, which she admits is a priority when making an argument.

“Ashli is a rising star in Washington and is capable of moving big mountains,” said Rep. Pratt, who chairs the House Budget Committee and is the second-ranking Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee.

After eight years, Ms. Palmer is a veteran on the Hill. She says she can see how the Hill impacts the lives of people.

“The U.S. Congress plays a huge role in advocacy and the lives of people,” she said. “I have witnessed firsthand the opportunities and challenges facing senior citizens, children, educators, international affairs advocates and average citizens, and what we do on the Hill makes all the difference.”

Rosemary Enobakhare, C’2008
Getting Ready to Govern
When she attended Spelman, Rosemary Enobakhare says no one ever could have told her she would have a career in politics. But, through the College’s principle of teaching women to commit and serve the community, she opened her eyes and mind to the opportunities politics offer.

“I never in a million years believed that I would ever go into politics, but at Spelman, I developed a passion for wanting to help others who had become voiceless,” said the economics major, who plans to pursue an MBA in law or public policy. “By working in Congressman Bennie Thompson’s [D-Mississippi] office as an intern and for Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign, I totally changed my mind about politics. I discovered a love for policy, which caused me to get more involved.”

In her day-to-day responsibilities, Ms. Enobakhare works with the chairman of the DNC, promotes President Obama’s agenda to constituents, speaks with college students who tour the DNC facilities, and goes to states to help secure Democratic seats within Congressional and Senate races during election season.

Ms. Enobakhare, who is getting ready for the upcoming November elections, admits that campaigning has its letdowns. “When working on campaigns, you put in a lot of hard work for your candidate in hopes of winning a seat, but things don’t necessarily go your way,” she said. “Many times your candidate does not win, and that is the toughest part of my job.”

With lofty goals of her own, Ms. Enobakhare expects to be on the political scene a long time. While she wants to climb the political ladder, starting with a council seat, then maybe a mayoral stint, her eyes are set on higher ground.

“I have so many goals and aspirations, buy my main goal is to one day be the governor of the state of Mississippi,” said the Jackson, Mississippi, native. “It would be my honor and privilege to serve the constituents of my home state.”
Preparing for a Life of Service

When Caren Howard first came to Spelman in the fall of 2003, she was pursuing a dual-degree major in computer science and engineering. But she would soon have a change of heart, and political science would become not only her major, but also her passion.

“At Spelman, it was through nightly discussion and dialogue with friends that I learned about the difference I could make through politics,” said the Columbia, Maryland, native. “I obtained internships through the Brisbane Institute at Morehouse College that paired students from the AUC with members of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, and my passion for politics only grew stronger.”

Today, the staff assistant for Majority Leader U.S. Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Maryland) manages a team of 10 interns, conducts and schedules tours for the U.S. Capitol and the White House, processes flag requests and assists legislative staff.

“Caren is an integral member of our staff and performs very important duties for the office and for me as well,” said Rep. Hoyer, who as Majority Leader is charged with scheduling legislation for consideration on the House floor, as well as building unity among House Democrats and delivering the Democratic Party’s message. “It is obvious that her educational experience at Spelman prepared her to be a real leader.”

Her political ascension includes internships with Georgia state Reps. Carolyn Hugley and Alisha Thomas Morgan as well as with the Armed Services Committee where she helped draft legislation to honor the Korean Constabulary.

“I always saw Caren pursuing a career in politics, because she always was concerned about the welfare of her community and genuinely cared about how to enhance her community,” said Ms. Howard’s childhood friend Jakia Muhammad.

While the political climate can be toxic, Ms. Howard looks at the great work of people on the Hill who work tirelessly to get bills passed. She cites U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas) as impressive on the floor but very hardworking in her Houston home District. She also mentions her own boss, Rep. Hoyer, and Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-California), as 100 percent dedicated to their work because they are the first in and the last out.

“I am most interested in policy and writing bills because that is what impacts people,” said Ms. Howard, who worked with the Democratic Party of New Mexico in 2008 to get Tom Udall elected to his Senate seat. “My eyes have been opened to the public-sector scope of service in politics, and it is service that is my main takeaway from Spelman.”

“At Spelman, it was through nightly discussion and dialogue with friends that I learned about the difference I could make through politics.”

—CAREN ANGELA HOWARD, C’2007

SPELMAN MESSENGER

Jocelyn Griffin, C’2003, Lays a Path from the Projects to Capitol Hill.

Jocelyn Griffin thrives on the fast-paced, challenging and competitive world of politics. The 2003 magna cum laude sociology graduate spends her days writing floor speeches, drafting legislation, developing and planning legislative initiatives, monitoring legislative developments and conducting meetings for U.S. Rep. Hank Johnson (D-Georgia). As legislative counsel, Ms. Griffin says never in her wildest dreams would she have imagined herself on Capitol Hill.

“I grew up in Connecticut, never knew my father and lived with my mom in subsidized housing,” said the 29-year-old who graduated cum laude from Quinnipiac University School of Law in 2006. “I would have never thought I could go from the projects, to Spelman, to law school, to law-firm life, and then to Capitol Hill.”

While she is still feeling her way around the Hill and contemplating her career, ultimately Ms. Griffin knows she has many options — continue to work her way up on the Hill, return to private practice, or strive to become a judge. Currently, Griffin enjoys working for Rep. Johnson and is focused on contributing her legal skills to his office. On the Hill, rubbing shoulders with the likes of Attorney General Eric Holder, Justices Antonin Scalia and Stephen G. Breyer, she takes pride in advising her boss, who is a civil and criminal lawyer.

“As a member of the Judiciary Committee and chair of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy, I deal with critical issues ranging from criminal justice reform to immigration to commercial and administrative law every week,” said Rep. Johnson, who is up for re-election in Georgia’s 4th District. “Jocelyn is my go-to person in the office for these and — quite frankly — many other matters. Her professionalism, backed by sound legal skills and in-depth knowledge, makes her invaluable to me and my team.”

Giving credit to Spelman, Ms. Griffin says the impact the College made on her has laid an unshakeable foundation. From academic mentors to long-lasting friendships, being a Spelman woman is something she does not take lightly.

“Spelman prepared me for my political work because it was there that I was taught to set high standards, always be prepared and to learn from everyone I encountered,” said Ms. Griffin who was a Gates Millennium Scholar. “Early on, I learned the following: to be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be late; and to be late is unacceptable. In fact, some days I get to the office at 6:45 a.m.”

A hardworking visionary, she looks at each move as a stepping stone in her career. Her legal career began in 2004 when she spent her summer at the law offices of Ropes & Gray LLP in Boston as an intern. The next summer she worked as a summer associate with Murtha Cullina LLP in Hartford, Connecticut. After her graduation from law school, Murtha Cullina in New Haven, Connecticut, hired her as an associate, where she worked in the litigation
department. From there, she moved to Keller and Heckman LLP, in Washington, D.C., where she practiced in the employment and labor department. In November 2009, she began as a legal fellow for Rep. Johnson.

“She was an especially dedicated young scholar who had a professional demeanor and a work ethic that was stronger than most of her peers,” said Bruce Wade, Ph.D., professor of sociology. “I admire her ability to overcome challenges and to work through difficult circumstances and come out on top. You can tell that she had a solid family background and a strong intellect — even when she was an undergraduate.”

While her days are steeped in advising the congressman on various legal and policy issues, including labor and employment, state taxation and immigration issues, and preparing him for judiciary hearings, Ms. Griffin has no regrets.

“I truly believe that there is a season to every aspect of my life,” said Ms. Griffin. “Everything I have experienced is preparing me for where I am supposed to be, for what I am supposed to be doing. Right now, I am right where I am supposed to be.”

Janel George, C’99
Balances Career Pursuits
From preparation at Spelman developing her analytical and critical-thinking skills, Janel George can now critically analyze issues and policies in the office of Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Washington). As a legislative assistant, George handles health care, education and judiciary issues for Sen. Cantwell.

“The analytical skills that I ascertained at Spelman serve me well in examining legislation and policies, predicting the possible impacts they may have, and devising legislative solutions to address a range of issues,” said Ms. George, a cum laude English graduate who went on to receive her juris doctor from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

The Seattle native was not initially interested in a law career. After Spelman, she spent a year working on grants and contracts with the Fulton County Arts Council before becoming a fourth-grade assistant teacher.

“I was so fortunate to have very rigorous classes taught by incredibly smart and politically astute teachers.”

— AYLISSA GOWENS, C’2002

“I struggled about whether to pursue a career that used my artistic talents or something that was more cerebral,” she said. “I decided to attend law school and represented children in custody cases for a couple of years before coming to the Hill.

“On a given day, I might meet with an arts advocate or educators or attorneys. It really combines my various interests; however, I still pursue my interest in art and continue to paint and draw.”

Alyssa Gowens, C’2002
Rigorously Pursues Law & Policy
Since her destiny was politics, Alyssa Gowens came to Spelman to major in political science. As judiciary legislative counsel for Rep. Mel Watt (D-North Carolina), who serves on several subcommittees, Ms. Gowens manages a spectrum of Judiciary Committee issues with a special emphasis on copyright, trademark, patent, antitrust and immigration law.

“I was so fortunate to have very rigorous classes taught by incredibly smart and politically astute teachers,” said Ms. Gowens, a cum laude graduate who was also involved in the student government association. “Dr. Pedascaleaux and Dr. Davis always had engaging classes and challenged us to fully engage in the political process on all levels.”

After Spelman, Ms. Gowens began a judicial clerkship for the Judge Jeanette Clark in the District of Columbia Superior Court. In 2007, she joined the office of Rep. Watt as legislative assistant and functioned as a liaison to the Congressional Black Caucus. In 2009, she was promoted to Judiciary Legislative Counsel and reprioritized her legislative portfolio to focus primarily on intellectual property, antitrust and telecommunications law and policy.

“Before working on the Hill, I wasn’t aware of the many opportunities available until about a year ago,” said Ms. Gowens. “I explored some of the options and found myself working on and loving Capitol Hill.”

RENITA MATHIS is chief interactive editor and associate director of communications at Spelman College.
As we celebrated The Legacy of Change: Founders Day 2010, an anonymous donor gave us a challenge. This sponsor agreed to give Spelman College $300,000, under one condition: a minimum of 5,000 alumnae donors would need to make a gift to the College, by its birthday on April 11. This of course seemed like a challenging goal to meet because 60 days before Founders Day, fewer than 2000 alumnae had made their 2009–2010 gifts to the College. But, Spelman women are even further motivated by a challenge. Once we put our minds and energy behind a goal, we will not only achieve it, but we will exceed it. And we did — by 5,825 alumnae donors to be exact!

The College issued the charge and it was you, my Spelman Sisters, that made the achievement a reality. We asked you to make a gift and then encourage others to give. You used every communication vehicle possible to enlist support. From phone calls and visits, to Facebook and Twitter, you called upon every Spelman alumna that you knew, and asked them to gGive to Spelman College.

As the challenge “Honor Roll” was posted each week you checked to see, not only that your name appeared, but that your sisters’ names appeared as well. After all, those sisters promised you that they would make a gift. If an alumna’s name did not appear, you reached out again and again. One alumna shared with me her strategy and it really made me chuckle. She made an announcement at her church requesting that Spelman alumnae meet at the back of the church immediately following services. Once they were assembled, she gave her personal testimony as to why she supported Spelman and asked other alumnae to join her in this effort. Later that week, she came to an Atlanta alumnae chat with 10 checks in hand. By whatever means possible, Spelman women become creative and we make it happen.

In the 2009–2010 fiscal year, Spelman celebrated its highest alumnae giving record in the institution’s history — 39 percent. This figure is up from 32 percent over the prior year. Yes, Spelman alumnae, you are the change that makes the difference. Your love, dedication and support moved Spelman to new heights, and only an elite group of colleges and universities have achieved this milestone.

As we move forward in 2010 - 2011, I encourage you to continue to support Spelman with your time, talents and treasures. As part of the Strategic Plan 2015, we are seeking to strengthen the academic core of this institution. Each constituency group; students, faculty, administration and staff, trustees and alumnae have been charged to take specific actions with their own specific GOALS:

- **Global Engagement through Innovative Programming**
- **Ongoing Support for Spelman**
- **Alumnae Connections with Students**
  (Mentoring and Support)
- **Leadership Development and Lifelong Learning Opportunities**
- **Support of Service and Community Engagement Opportunities for Alumnae**

What does this mean for the engaged Spelman alumnae? It means that if we are to carry on the legacy of this College, we will embrace our GOALS with energy and enthusiasm, break new records in alumnae giving and participation, and continue to be the change that makes the difference.

Sisterly,

**Sharon Owens, C'76**
Director of Alumnae Affairs
1931
Willie Dobbs Blackburn
Personal: Celebrated her 100th birthday on January 1, 2010.

1941
Vivian Hunt Johnson
Personal: Celebrated her 90th birthday on June 26, 2010 at a luncheon hosted by her family.

1953
Mary McKinney Edmonds
Professional: Was honored as a legacy by NASPA, Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education in February 2010.

1954
Juel Pate Borders-Benson
Professional: Received the 50 Years of Service Award on January 30, 2010 from the officers and members of the Atlanta Medical Association at the 2010 Scholarship/Inaugural Celebration. Rev. Dr. Borders-Benson was also inducted into the Atlanta Business League’s Women’s Hall of Fame on February 23, 2010 during the Annual Breakfast Celebration.

1963
Anne Ashmore-Hudson
Professional: Honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by Simmons College School of Social Work in 2009 for her pioneering work in jury selection and early leadership for minorities in Employee Employment Programs in industry.

Jean Rogers-Yates
Professional: Gave the invocation at the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College, Chicago chapter’s “A Crystal Blue Evening” on December 12, 2009.

1964
Bernette Joshua Johnson
Professional: Received the Spirit of Excellence Award from The American Bar Association Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession on February 6, 2010. Justice Johnson serves on the Louisiana Supreme Court and was recognized for her unwavering commitment to enhancing diversity in the legal profession.

1967
Alice M. Graham
Professional: Accepted a position in Biloxi, Mississippi as the Executive Director of Mississippi Coast Interfaith Disaster Task Force.

1970
Gail Davenport
Professional: Elected in the July 20, 2010 primary as the Democratic nominee for the Georgia State Senate, District 44. She had no opposition in the general election in November 2010.

1971
Tina McElroy Ansa

1972
Cheryl Phillips Taylor

1976
Raymone K. Bain

Denise Hartsfield
Professional: Served as keynote speaker for the Leadership Luncheon during the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College’s Southeast Regional Conference, July 8–11, 2010, at Spelman College.

1980
Terri Vismale Morris
Professional: Elected vice president of the board of directors of Alliance Francaise d’Atlanta and also serves as chairwoman of the organization’s 2010 Bastille Day Gala. The Alliance Francaise d’Atlanta is a nonprofit organization serving the Atlanta community as a provider of French language and culture.

1981
Cynthia Jackson

1983
Sheri Yarbrough
Professional: Presented the honorees at the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College, Chicago Chapter’s “A Crystal Blue Evening” on December 12, 2009.

1984
Sherri Thompson Dickerson
Professional: Named Commissioner of Human Resources for the City of Atlanta in February 2010.

1985
Florence Greer
Professional: Honored at “All That Jazz,” the scholarship fundraiser for the South Florida Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College on June 27, 2010.

1986
Daphne Sykes Scott
Professional: Appointed to a judgeship on the Orange County Superior Court by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in May 2010.

1988
Marion Brooks
Professional: Served as mistress of ceremony for the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College, Chicago Chapter’s “A Crystal Blue Evening” on December 12, 2009.

Donna McIntosh

Brett Savage-Simon
Professional: Featured on the ABC television show “Good Morning America” in February 2010 on a segment about kids and cell phones.

Tracy Scott

1989
Terri Sherice Davis
Professional: Received the Distinguished Achievement Award for Outstanding Teaching Accomplishments from the Rutgers University communications and information department in May 2010.

Alonia Jernigan
Professional: Hosted the television show “Dreams Come True,” on CTN, April 25, 2010. She interviewed Dr. Joyce Dorse, president and CEO of the Fulton Atlanta Community Action Authority, and Nena Gilreath and Waverly Lucas of Baldacci.

1990
Kelly Blackburn Eccles

1994
Rosalind Kline-Thomas
Professional: Received the Chicago 2010 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching in May 2010. Rosalind is a math instructor with Chicago public schools.

1998
Sharla Jackson
Professional: Received a day proclaimed in her honor, June 25, 2010, by the City of Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and Fulton County Commission Chair John Eaves as a result of her drafting the “Smash and Grab” legislation in collaboration with local and national retailers that was signed into law on June 4, 2010, by Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue.
1991

Tamara Hill Bennett  
**Professional:** Work as an optometrist featured in the philly.com article “Doc’s eye exams take a closer look at pupils” in December 2009.

Clarice Cotten  
**Married:** James Edward McCrary II on November 7, 2009, in Tucker, Georgia.

Elizabeth Espy  
**Birth:** Daughter, Brynn Elise, born on January 20, 2010.

India Gary  
**Professional:** Named to the Powerlist 2010 as one of the 100 most influential black people in the UK. She was also named Chair of the LEAP Board in March 2010. LEAP exists in the UK to help unemployed people who have difficulty accessing the labor market to develop the skills, attitude and behavior to achieve long-term, sustainable employment.

1992

Kim W. Barnette  

Angelou Ezeilo  
**Professional:** Served as a panelist at the Environmental Justice Symposium, Earth Day, on April 22, 2010, at Spelman College. Angelou is director of Greening the Youth Foundation.

Rosalind Gregory-Bass  
**Professional:** Presented the lecture, “Role of Prohibition in Ovarian Cancer Pathology and Chemotherapeutic” for the biology department on March 19, 2010, at Spelman College.

Kimberlee Scott Mayes  
**Professional:** Led the prayer breakfast at the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College’s Southeast Regional Conference, July 8–11, 2010, at Spelman College.

1993

Andrea Barnwell Brownlee  
**Professional:** Received the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center’s Nexus Award 2010 in recognition of individuals who have made a profound contribution to the visual arts in Atlanta and beyond on April 21, 2010.

Nicole La Beach  
**Professional:** Led the leadership and team-building activities at the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College’s Southeast Regional Conference, July 8–11, 2010, at Spelman College.

1994

Meera Bowman-Johnson  
**Professional:** Wrote the article, “It’s Hard to Be Mocked, Harder to Stay Focused,” featured on TheRoot.com on March 2, 2010.

Marla Frederick  
**Professional:** Earned tenure at Harvard University. She is one of seven tenured African American women at Harvard, joining alumnae Evelyn Hammond, C’76, and Deborah Prothrow-Stith, C’75.

Thuraaya S. Kent  
**Professional:** Named the 2010 Joy Bright Hancock Leadership Award recipient. The award was presented on June 2, 2010 during the 23rd annual Sea Service Leadership Association Women’s Leadership Symposium in Washington, D.C.

1995

Riche’ Barnes  
**Professional:** Awarded Ph.D. in anthropology from Emory University in July 2009. She was promoted to assistant professor of anthropology in the department of Afro-American Studies at Smith College and published the chapter, “Black Women Have Always Worked: Is There a Work and Family Conflict within the Black Middle Class?” in The Changing Landscape of Work and Family in the American Middle Class.

Crystal Renee Chambers  
**Professional:** Co-edited the book, From Diplomas to Doctorates: The Success of Black Women in Higher Education and Its Implications for Equal Educational Opportunities for All, published by Stylus Publishing in May 2010.

Maiya Clark  
**Professional:** Opened a solo pediatric practice, Sunshine Pediatrics, in Silver Spring, Maryland.

On April 22, 2010, the Spelman Community celebrated **Dr. Gladys Glass, C’58**, at an appreciation/farewell reception in the June Gary Hopps Atrium in the Albert E. Manley College Center. Since 1959, Dr. Glass has taught a broad range of courses in the mathematics department at Spelman and was extremely instrumental in its growth. In 1992, she was awarded the Spelman College Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching.

On June 15, 2010, **Judge Tanya Walton Pratt, C’81**, was unanimously confirmed (95-0) by the U.S. Senate as the first African American federal judge in the state of Indiana. This appointment also made her one of four female jurists on Indiana’s federal bench. She was sworn in on June 25, 2010.

Christine King Farris, C’48, was the keynote speaker at the 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Awards sponsored by Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health and the Goizueta Business School.

Erin Grosecer Mitchell, C’55, joined an elite class of liberators, the Chicago Freedom Sisters, at a March 13, 2010 ceremony at the DuSable Museum of African American History. The honor was given to 20 extraordinary women who participated in the civil rights and social justice movement and who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the ongoing struggle for equal rights. She was also the Minnie Felton Jackson award honoree at “A Crystal Blue Evening,” held on December 12, 2009, by the Chicago chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College.
One of Spelman’s oldest living high school graduates, Mildred Clarke, H.S.’29, celebrated her 102nd birthday by sharing her poignant story with Dr. Gloria Wade Gayles, founding director of the SIS Oral History Project, and with several SIS students.

Nicole Hodges Persley, C’93, was highlighted in the article, “KU Professor Draws Students to Class with Hip Hop Research,” in The Call, July 9–15, 2010 issue. The article discusses the hip hop course Dr. Persley — the first tenure track African American theater professor at the University of Kansas in more than 10 years — will teach in the fall of 2010. It’s the first hip hop course in the school’s history.

Spelman College was well represented when the National Science Foundation published its Graduate Research Fellowship Program 2010 Award Offers and Honorable Mentions list. The College has seven alumnae award recipients and one honorable mention. The award recipients are Joy Marie Agee, C’2008; Melissa Rene Boone, C’2008; Elizabeth Lauren Johnson, C’2008, Sheena Lewis, C’2009; Juliana Deborah Kelley Partridge, C’2009; Courtena Rainey, C’2009 and Jessica Renay Rowland, C’2008. Jaira J. Harrington, C’2007, received the honorable mention.

Dr. Miquel D. Antoine, C’85, was awarded the 2010 Inventor of the Year honor, by the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory along with colleagues Plamen Demirev, Andrew Feldman, Nathan Hagan and Jeffrey Lin for the “IsoMS-Drug-Array” which uses mass spectrometry to determine whether a microorganism is susceptible or resistant to one or more drugs — in a fraction of the time required by current technologies.

On January 1, 2010, at the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Dr. Evelyn Chisolm, C’49, was the education honoree at the Atlanta branch NAACP annual observance of the Emancipation Proclamation, Jubilee Day Emancipation 2010: “Our Youth, Our Future.” Other honorees included Dr. David Satcher, Atlanta City Councilman Jim Maddox and filmmaker Tyler Perry.
Michaele Hugghis Flagg  
**Professional:** The Chicago Tribune  
edorsed Ms. Flagg in January 2010, during her candidacy for judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

NaTaki Osbourne-Jelks  
**Professional:** Served as a panelist at the Environmental Justice Symposium, Earth Day, on April 22, 2010, at Spelman College. She was also honored at The Interdenominational Theological Center’s James H. Gosten Awards Dinner on March 26, 2010, at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta. Na’Taki is an environmental activist and scientist for the National Wildlife Federation and Spelman College.

Jakita O. Thomas  

Dawn Turner  
**Professional:** Received the Student Support Service of the Year award and the High School counselor of the year award for the Henry County School System in McDonough, Georgia in April 2009. She was also recognized by Senator Gail Buckner, 44th Senate District, at a town hall meeting in March 2010 by receiving a proclamation and a HERO (Henry Employee Recognition Obsverance) award for earning both honors.

1996  
Marla Posey-Moss  
**Professional:** Received the 2010 Honoring Women of Color in Government Award from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., the Omicron Chi Zeta Chapter.

Anne Collins Smith  
**Professional:** Participated in the Spelman College Art Department’s Alumni/Alumni Success Stories Conversations with alumni from Clark Atlanta University and Morehouse College and current art majors on February 18, 2010. Ance presented on her career as curator of collections, Spelman College Museum of Fine Art.

Aleeisha Taylor  
**Professional:** Appointed Director of Special Projects in the Education Support Program of the Open Society Institute (Soros Foundation); she was seconded to the Government of Liberia as the senior advisor to the minister of education, August – December 2010, and was accepted as a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Celeste Watkins-Hayes  
**Professional:** Received the Blue Diamond Woman of Excellence Award at the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College, Chicago Chapter’s “A Crystal Blue Evening” on December 12, 2009. She was also featured in the article, “The Invisible AIDS Victims: How Women Cope,” published by the National Science Foundation, about her studies focusing on women with HIV/AIDS and the economic resources that help them effectively manage their health.

1997  
Ayana Hernandez  
**Professional:** Promoted to vice president in the Raleigh office of Fleishman-Hillard Communications, a global public relations, marketing and corporate communications company, in October 2009.

1998  
Ashley Deadwyler-Jones  
**Professional:** Launched a State Farm agency in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area on June 1, 2010.

Tia Fuller  

Jade Lambert-Smith  
**Professional:** Directed the Spelman College department of drama and dance’s presentation of “Crows,” February 18–21, 2010, in Atlanta.

Rachael Sales  
**Professional:** Co-founded and celebrated the grand opening of Healing Waters Christian Academy’s new facility on May 29, 2010, in Atlanta.

Denise White  
**Professional:** Featured in the New and Noteworthy section on the R&B page of iTunes in March 2010 for her EP Avery* Sunshine.

2000  
Lauren Copeland  
**Professional:** Participated in the Spelman College Art Department’s Alumnae/Alumni Success Stories Conversations with alumnae from Clark Atlanta University and Morehouse College and current art majors on February 18, 2010. Lauren presented on her career as an interior designer, including her role as project manager for British Airways.

Tai Beauchamp  
**Professional:** Hosted a late night brunch and cocktail event for the launch of “The New Faces of Philanthropy” series on June 25, 2010, at The Betsy Southbeach in Miami Beach, Florida.

Lezi Levene Harvell  
**Birth:** Daughter, Lux, born on May 22, 2010.

Jerika Johnstone  
**Education:** Received her doctorate in Comparative and International Education Development from the University of Minnesota after completing her dissertation in South Africa from June through October 2007. Recently launched off the Market, a company that produces events and opportunities for couples to engage in enriching social activities to sustain and fortify their marriages.

Alisha Thomas Morgan  
**Professional:** Served as a panelist at the “This I Believe” Forum on January 19, 2010, at Spelman College.

Tiffany Nelson  

April Payton  
**Birth:** Daughter, Naomi Elizabeth Payton, born on May 14, 2010, in Atlanta.

Marta Sanchez  
**Professional:** Featured in Spelman College Honors Program and The Dean’s Office’s Dialogue with Marta Sanchez on February 9, 2010, at Spelman College.

Folashade Alao  
**Education:** Received a Ph.D. in American Studies at Emory University in May 2009. She was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship in African American literature at Rutgers University, 2009—2010 and accepted a tenure track position in English and African American Studies at the University of South Carolina—Columbia.

Angela Phillips  
**Birth:** Son, Jackson Collier Jernigan born on March 8, 2010.

E. Vanessa Spearman  
**Professional:** Participated in the “Women Who Change the World: Spelman Alumnae in Leadership” Closing Homecoming Worship Service on October 26, 2009, in Sisters Chapel.

Tiffany R. Walker  
**Professional:** Participated in Sisters Chapel Worship Service on January 31, 2010.

Cyreena Bostom Ashby  
**Married:** Samuel Lee Ashby in October 2009.

Akima Briggs  
**Professional:** Launched Nubian Sol International, a mission-based corporation dedicated to providing thought provoking, growth inspiring experiences to the public in December 2009.

Natasha Mcgough Clarke  
**Professional:** Produced the trailer for her upcoming film, V.I.P. ’s, and launched the blog, vipsinthefilm.blogspot.com, to secure funding for the documentary, with co-executive producer Shelby Larkin, C’2003.

Akidah Felder  
**Professional:** Selected as a finalist in the National Association of Broadcasters PSA competition in March 2010, for her PSA, “I AM HUMAN: ASD and Adults.”

BeLara B. Palmer  
**Married:** Michael L. Palmer on July 19, 2009, at Christian Ministries in Marietta, Georgia.

2003  
Natane Eaddy  
**Professional:** Received the 2010 Massachusetts Black Judges Conference Book Award on April 15, 2010.

Lynette Espy  
**Professional:** Named one of Atlanta’s Power 30 Under 30 in June 2010.

Katrice Grayson  
**Professional:** Discussed her new book, Year One: 12 Questions for Understanding Life After Graduation, on February 22, 2010, for The Ethel Wad- dell Githii Honors Program at Spelman College.

Shelby Larkin  
**Professional:** Produced the trailer for her upcoming film, V.I.P. ’s and launched the blog, vipsinthefilm.blogspot.com, to secure funding for the documentary, with co-executive producer, Natasha Mcgough Clark, C’2002.

Natalie Manson  
**Married:** Erving Bailey on April 25, 2009, in McLean, Virginia.
Nicole Venable, C’91, was so inspired by her mother Yvonne’s life-long commitment and advocacy for education that she started the Lady Von Scholarship in her name. Her mother spent her career as a primary school teacher and preschool owner having conversations with children about the importance of college. She also made calls to support students during their application process to historically Black colleges and universities, and she started programs for students to hear about the Black college experience.

“By the time they got to college she was always slipping them money – book money, or money to help with Greek ambitions,” says Ms. Venable, who still runs the family’s early learning childcare center. “When she passed away, so many people came up to me and said, ‘If it wasn’t for your mom, I would not have gotten into college. I would not have pledged. I would not have had books.’”

Ms. Venable began targeting fundraising for the Lady Von Scholarship to Spelman in 2005 by hosting a small holiday party in her home with about 15 friends and family members. Last year the annual event drew more than 100 and was sponsored by designer Jimmy Choo. The designer’s Washington, D.C. store was also the location for another fundraiser where 10 percent of $30,000 in purchased shoes was given to the scholarship. The events have multiplied, including movie premieres and jewelry events tied to gifts and the scholarship’s premiere event, the annual “White Elephant High Tea,” which raised $9,000.

An international trade attorney, Ms. Venable also includes her professional community among her fundraising sources. “My colleagues in the international field are very committed to cultivating the next generation of women behind us to have the international experience,” says Ms. Venable, who plans to keep growing the endowed scholarship to reach the $50,000 mark.

Scholarship recipients must demonstrate financial need, maintain good academic standing and be a part of Spelman’s study abroad program. “Spelman has a long history of sending women abroad and my mother encouraged me to study abroad,” says Ms. Venable, who traveled to London and Oaxaca, Mexico, as an undergraduate.

The Lady Von Scholarship allowed recipient Adrianna Ebron, C’2010, to travel to Beijing, China, where she learned Chinese and took classes in Chinese economy and culture. Ms. Ebron was also able to use part of the scholarship money to cover the cost of her housing.

“These kinds of scholarships are important for students like me because I came to Spelman knowing that I could not afford it,” says Ms. Ebron, a history major who is the first in her family to attend college. “I didn’t know how I was going to get through every year, so the Lady Von Scholarship was a very big blessing to me and my family.”

Ms. Ebron plans to open an independent school for underprivileged African American girls. Nicole is proud of how her mother’s efforts have manifested themselves in a globally educated student dedicating her life to education.

“I’m following the legacy that my mother started on a small scale and continuing it on a larger scale,” says Ms. Venable. “Encouraging women to study abroad is very important to me. First, the Spelman experience, and then to have the international experience on top of that, is invaluable and immeasurable.”
Campaign Priorities Highlight Intercultural Awareness and Hands-on Experiences

In an evolving world, two of the priorities of the Campaign for Spelman College will expose students to career-relevant opportunities and develop their global and intercultural awareness.

The College’s commitment to providing an international experience reaches many levels – by creating new partnerships with Turkey, China and Brazil for summer internship programs; by requiring students majoring in Spanish and International Studies to spend a semester abroad; and by consistently ranking as one of the top-producing liberal arts colleges of Fulbright fellows, chosen for their leadership potential to study, teach, or conduct research in other countries, and develop international competence and cross-cultural expertise.

“What’s really exciting is seeing the desire of students to have an international experience as part of their Spelman experience. We no longer have to recruit – they come to us,” says Dr. Margery Ganz, director of Spelman’s Study Abroad and International Exchange Program.

Global learning has always been available to some Spelman students, but it has not been universal, as many do not have the financial wherewithal to fund international travel. More than 50 percent of students enrolled at Spelman qualify for the low-income-designated Pell grant. These young women, who are destined to change the world often have such a challenging time paying for college that traveling abroad seems out of reach.

Last year 150 of more than 2,000 in the entire Spelman student body participated in study abroad programs with $110,000 in scholarship aid being awarded for international opportunities.

Major programs like the Gordon-Zeto Endowed Fund for International Initiatives – funded by a $17 million anonymous gift – are vital to the College’s ability to integrate global learning. The endowment is currently being built to support study-abroad experiences for Spelman students and faculty, to provide senior leadership for the College’s international programs, and to bring students from Africa to the U.S. to attend Spelman.

Another campaign priority – to expand undergraduate research and career-related internships – is critical to the educational outcomes of our students. Through hands-on research and professional experience, Spelman undergraduates learn to navigate the workplace confidently.

One of the more creative initiatives being designed at Spelman to assist work-study students is a pilot cooperative work scholars program, initially funded with a planning grant from the Mellon Foundation.

Much-needed capital for student researchers and interns can also come from identifying funding to support the Spelman Millennial Faculty Fellows, who mentor student researchers, link them with internships and help them integrate learning with leadership and career planning for specific outcomes.

Corporate partnerships with companies like General Electric are also key to providing students with career-related experiences. GE’s relationship with the College led to a record 15 Spelman students interning at the company this past summer.

For more information on funding opportunities, please contact the Office of Development at (866) 512-1690.

One Student, Three Continents

The Spelman career of Brittanye Mackey, C’2011, has been filled with experiences abroad. The summer after her first year, she was awarded the Arcadia University College Center for Education Abroad Scholarship to participate in a joint program that Spelman held with Arcadia University in Paris. The French and international studies major has since traveled to the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Senegal and the Gambia.

“My international travels have undoubtedly helped to improve my ability to understand and, more importantly, appreciate cultures and traditions different from my own. I’ve developed an even deeper desire to live abroad and work to help developing communities,” says Ms. Mackey, who is a recipient of numerous awards, including the Ruth-Ercile L. Hodges Endowed Scholarship, the Mickey Leland Scholarship and the Martin Yanuck Scholarship, which have supported Mackey’s tuition and other school expenses.
Pfizer and McDonald’s support Spelman Programs

Signature programs at Spelman College are greatly enriched by corporate involvement.

The McDonald’s Corporation was a first-time supporter of the Sixth Annual Spelman College Leadership & Women of Color Conference. As a Connecting Sponsor at the $10,000 level, McDonald’s contribution supported workshops and sessions during the 2010 conference, “Building Civil Communities for Change,” which examined the importance of civility in strengthening America and the impact of women of color in this effort.

McDonald’s was one of several contributors, including lead sponsor JP Morgan Chase, of the annual event. “Having this international brand join our discussion on civility was very resourceful because McDonald’s brings an ability to carry out business in a way that is supportive of the different cultures of the world,” said Jane Smith, Ed.D, C’68, executive director of the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement.

Pfizer has been a corporate partner for 15 years. For the second consecutive year, they were the presenting sponsor of 2010 Research Day, with an investment of $25,000. Their support provided items such as project materials and judging honorariums for the annual event that featured 1,000 presenters and 120 presentations, showcasing the College’s outstanding research and scholarly achievements.

“Our support is based on the quality of research that is presented by the students on that day from every discipline including biology, chemistry, environmental sciences and the liberal arts,” said Toni Hoover, senior vice president, Pfizer World Wide Research & Development. Many times, the insights that students receive from supporting companies are even more valuable to them than the resources the companies provide. During the Women of Color Conference, McDonald’s conducted a workshop focusing on strategies for young women to excel in corporate America by identifying growth opportunities, identifying potential employers and maintaining a sense of self.

Pfizer has also been hands-on in their support of Research Day. “Having Toni Hoover come to speak to the students one year was so motivational and inspirational to our students,” said Dr. Lily McNair, associate provost of research.

Spelman students also gained valuable information about research-based professions and best practices for career development during a Research Day address from Maya Hanna, C’2005, a senior associate research statistician at Pfizer. “[Ms. Hanna’s address] further reinforces the caliber of talent emerging from the research disciplines that are fostered at the college through such events as Research Day,” said Ms. Hoover. “We congratulate Spelman in continuing to grow and nurture the researchers of tomorrow.”

Sustainable Solutions to Improve Science Center

Two gifts are helping Spelman to implement one of its foundational priorities – strengthening the campus infrastructure and learning environment by creating a “green” campus. An $85,000 contribution from The Home Depot Foundation and $50,000 in support from Grants to Green, a collaboration between the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta, Southface Energy Institute, and the Enterprise Community Partners, will improve the environmental impact of the Albro-Falconer-Manley Science Center.

“Spelman College deserves enormous credit for the work they are doing in the area of sustainability, and we are delighted to support the implementation of the Energy and Water Efficiency Project on their campus,” says Kelly Caffarelli, president of The Home Depot Foundation.

Phase one of the HVAC recommission has been completed and meters to monitor water usage will be installed the fall, according to Art Frazier, director of Facilities Management and Services, who is leading the institution’s environmental stewards. The last phase of tracking energy consumption and evaluating energy-efficient solutions will take place over the next year.

Albro-Falconer-Manley Science Center
Giving Opportunities

The goals of the Campaign for Spelman College include offering every student the opportunity for global and career-related experiences. Funding is needed for research/lab materials, stipends and housing to provide meaningful international, research and internship opportunities connected to students’ areas of study, leadership development, and service-learning goals. Investment in academic excellence is critical to the education of the next generation of these Spelman women who are making the choice to change the world.

Experiential Learning Funds

Student Global Experiences

- Endowed funds start at $50,000 and may be designated to support students in specific areas of study
- Named, current use/annual funds start at $5,000 (minimum three-year funding commitment preferred)
- General support for global initiatives and student research and career experiences starts at $1,000 (five-year commitment preferred)

Student Research or Career-Related Internships

- Endowed funds start at $50,000 and may be designated to support students in specific areas of study
- Named, current use/annual funds start at $5,000 (minimum three-year funding commitment preferred)
- Support for student research and career experiences starts at $1,000 (five-year commitment preferred)

To learn more, please contact the Office of Development at (866) 512-1690.

Goal by Priority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal: $150 Million</th>
<th>Total Raised: $92 Million</th>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships</td>
<td>$80 Million (53%)-Total Raised: $32 mil.</td>
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<td>$40 Million (27%)-Total Raised: $36 mil.</td>
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The Campaign for Spelman College Donor List

www.changemeansaction.com

All gifts and pledges made since July 1, 2004, are included in this $150 million comprehensive fundraising effort. Spelman College gratefully acknowledges the following contributors of $75,000 and above for The Campaign for Spelman College.

$2,000,000 and above
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$5,000,000 – $9,999,999
Theodora Rochelle Lee, C’84
LaTanya Richardson Jackson, C’74

$20,000,000 and above
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$25,000 – $49,999

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$25,000 – $49,999
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Theodora Rochelle Lee, C’84
LaTanya Richardson Jackson, C’74

$20 Million (13%)-Total Raised: $16 mil. |

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Valerie Rockefeller Wayne
Trojanell B. Wilson, C’49 and Brent Wilson
Yuri Brands Foundation

Giving levels reflect Campaign gift commitments received during the period July 1, 2004, through August 31, 2010.
Rosalind Brewer, C’84, Carla Harris, C’83, and Colleen Taylor, C’90, were named in Black Enterprise magazine’s February 2010 cover story, “75 Most Powerful Women in Business.” Ms. Brewer is division president, Southeast operations, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc; Ms. Harris is managing director, Morgan Stanley; and Ms. Taylor is EVP, treasury management & merchant services, Capital One. In the same issue, Tiffani Murray, C’99, was featured in the article, “A Woman’s Guide to Building Money Management.” Ms. Murray also wrote the article, “The Hill Chats with BlackandMarriedwithKids.com” published on FlagerHill.com on June 29, 2010.

The Crisis Winter 2010 issue featured theater producer Alia Jones, C’95, in the article, “Taking Center Stage: Powerhouse Producer Alia Jones Brings Diversity to Broadway.” Ms. Jones is one of the producers responsible for the all-Black Broadway production of Tennessee Williams’ classic Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.

Lezli Levene Harvell, C’2000, was profiled by the city of Newark in February 2010, online at http://bcดนewark.org/see-newark/dr-lezli-and-chris-harvell/, highlighting her pediatric dental and orthodontic practice. She was also selected to serve on the leadership committee for New Jersey’s component of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry’s Head Start Dental Home National Initiative to increase awareness and importance of dental home care for all children. She is the youngest doctor and the only Black pediatric dentist selected to serve on this committee.

On May 31, 2010, National Public Radio aired a nationwide interview with Jasmine Sanders, C’2009, highlighting her successful first year teaching 9th and 10th grade literature at Alonzo A. Crim Open Campus High School in Atlanta and showcasing a day in the life of a Spelman College alumna and Teach For America corps member. She was also featured in a written piece on PublicBroadcasting.net.

On April 9, 2010, La’Shanda Holmes, C’2007, made history when she became the first African American female helicopter pilot in the United States Coast Guard. The ceremony took place at Naval Air Station Whiting Field in Milton, Florida, where she was pinned by Lt. Jeanine Menze, the first African American female aviator in U.S. Coast Guard history. Ms. Holmes’ next duty station is the Coast Guard Air Station Los Angeles.

Morgana Freeman, C’93, was pictured in the March 16, 2010, issue of Hello! magazine with her father, actor Morgan Freeman, and movie producer Lori McCreary.
Ashleigh May  
**Professional:** Published the article, “Prevalence of Abnormal Lipid Levels Among Youths – United States, 1999–2006,” in the CDC’s “Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report” on January 21, 2010. The article received media attention and led to several interviews with other media outlets including *The Washington Post* and *Reuters*.

DaNita McClain  
**Professional:** Inducted into the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars Beta Omega Chapter, Spelman College, on April 27, 2010.

Cherie Phears  
**Professional:** Joined the Atlanta office of Hunton & Williams as an associate on the litigation & intellectual property team as a part of the securities practice group in June 2010.

Rashida Rawls  
**Professional:** Sworn in as the vice president of print for the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists in January 2010.

Michelle Craddock  
**Education:** Received her Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Mississippi in 2009. She was honored by The Alliance for Graduate Education at The University of Mississippi at their annual recognition reception on April 30, 2009.

Kristal McKanders  
**Professional:** Joined Jackson Spalding, an Atlanta-based image creation, cultivation, and communications firm in February 2010.

Crystal D’Andrea Montgomery  
**Married:** Patrick DeWayne McClain at Pristine Chapel in Jonesboro, Georgia. Their wedding was featured in the January 11, 2010 issue of *Jet* magazine.

2005

Maya L. Hanna  
**Professional:** Served as plenary speaker for Research Day 2010 on April 16, 2010, at Spelman College. She is a senior associate research statistician with the pharma therapeutics division of Pfizer Global Research and Development.

Jasmine Martin  
**Education:** Received her Masters in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Kentucky, College of Education in May 2010.

2006

Nancy E. Goler Freeman  
**Professional:** Interviewer for the “First Female Bishops of the AME Church” documentary. She also founded the Personal Challenge Book Scholarship for graduating high school seniors at her alma mater, Susan Miller Dorsey High School in Los Angeles, and she was appointed to the senior advisory board of the DeKalb County Library.

Sarah Thompson  
**Professional:** Participated in the Sisters Chapel Seven Women at the Cross Lenton Worship Service on March 31, 2010.

2007

Lyndsey Collins  
**Professional:** Received a mini-grant through the Westminster School, Center for Teaching in Atlanta. The grant sponsored a three-week curriculum she created for the Phakamisani School in Hanover, South Africa, where she taught in the summer of 2010.

Katrina Jeniece Copney  
**Education:** Received her J.D. from Harvard Law School on May 27, 2010.

D’Lynn Jacobs  
**Professional:** Served as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer from 2008–2010 in Malawi.

Robyn Gail Morris  
**Education:** Received a J.D. from Harvard Law School in May 2010. She is employed with the law firm of Hughes, Hubbard & Reed in New York.

Kasharri Parker  
**Professional:** Gave the acknowledgement and appreciation at the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College, Chicago Chapter’s “A Crystal Blue Evening” on December 12, 2009.

Charnetta Robinson  
**Education:** Received her M.Ed. in Counselor Education from the University of New Orleans in August 2009. 
**Professional:** Awarded the National Counselor Certification (NCC) by the National Board of Certified Counselors in October 2009 and was hired in the St. Tammany Parish Public School District Human Resources Department as the coordinator of recruitment.

Fallon Wilson  
**Professional:** Participated in the Sisters Chapel Seven Women at the Cross Lenton Worship Service on March 31, 2010.

2004

Michelle Craddock  
**Education:** Received her Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Mississippi in 2009. She was honored by The Alliance for Graduate Education at The University of Mississippi at their annual recognition reception on April 30, 2009.

Evelyn Hammonds, C’76, was a new appointee to President Barack Obama’s Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. On February 26, 2010 the President signed a new executive order re-establishing the White House Initiative on HBCUs and the Board of Advisors. President Beverly Daniel Tatum was re-appointed to the board.

Carrie Ellis, C’97, led one of KaBOOM’s all-volunteer, done-in-a-day playground builds with First Lady Michelle Obama and California First Lady Maria Shriver. The event helped launch the White House’s “United We Serve” initiative.

Keisha Knight-Pulliam, C’2001, has guest starred in several episodes of Tyler Perry’s House of Payne, on TBS. She can now be seen in her recurring role as Miranda Payne.

As a Fulbright U.S. Student Fellow 2009–2010, Shaundra Patterson, C’2009, served as an English-teaching assistant in Thailand. In addition to engaging Thai students in a cultural exchange of literature, she traveled extensively and chronicled her journey on a Travellerspoint blog – “Living Life Thai Style.” While there, Ms. Patterson led English camps and extra-curricular activities, offered English courses to a local primary school and the community, and in March she conducted an English-teaching seminar. She also worked with COSA, an organization that helps young girls who have been exposed to sexual abuse.

Publications:

*The Washington Post* and *Reuters*

Promotions:

*The Washington Post* and *Reuters*
Several AUC graduates joined forces as NASA employees at Johnson Space Center in the Mission Control Center. **Genevieve Johnson, C’94**, is a project manager, robotics flight controller trainer and robotics on-board trainer flight project manager; **Jennifer Scott Williams, C’2000**, is a space shuttle flight controller; and **Elizabeth Smith, C’79**, is assistant manager, International Space Station Program Integration Office.

On May 6, 2010, **Kimberly Davis, C’81** (pictured fourth from right) was honored by the New York Historical Society at their annual Strawberry Festival. President Beverly Daniel Tatum (center) was the keynote speaker and trustee **Jerri DeVard, C’79**, (far left), was also in attendance. The event raised a record-breaking $230,000 and was featured in several publications including *The New York Beacon* and “Hamptons.com.” Ms. Davis was also featured as one of “Fast Company’s” 100 Most Creative People in Business 2010.”

**Kelli Coleman, C’2006**, was featured in the June 2010 issue of *Black Enterprise* magazine in the article “Making Cultural Connections: With Its Bold Strategic Vision, Global-hue Produces Powerful and Profitable Campaigns for Clients Seeking to Reach a Multicultural World.” She was also featured in *O, The Oprah Magazine*’s May 2010, 10th Anniversary issue where she participated in the article, “The Ultimate O Interview: Oprah Answers All Your Questions.” On June 3, 2010, Ms. Coleman was honored with a 2010 NV Award, at Time Center Stage in New York.

**Tomika DePriest, C’89**, was pictured with actress-director Jasmine Guy, actress Terri J. Vaughn and news anchor Karyn Greer in the April 8, 2010, issue of *Rolling Out Atlanta* for the article, “Black Women Film Network’s Annual Untold Stories Awards Honor Black Actresses.” **Sheryl Gripper, C’72**, founder of BWFN, is pictured left at the top.
Arianne Ashe Salandy  
**Education:** Received a master’s degree in business administration from Winthrop University on May 7, 2009.

Randi Warren  
**Education:** Departed on May 28, 2010, for a study-abroad program in Greece offered through the Tulane School of Law. She is entering her second year of law school at Mercer University, Walter F. George School of Law.

2008  
Dana Lang Collins  
**Education:** Received a master of science degree in counseling from Indiana University, Bloomington, on May 7, 2010.

Katrina Moore  
**Professional:** Participated in the Sisters Chapel Seven Women at the Cross Lenten Worship Service on March 31, 2010.

2009  
Shanita Bishop  
**Professional:** Joined the Spelman College staff as the program coordinator for the chemistry department.

Kiesha Cooper  
**Professional:** Joined the Spelman College staff as the Bonner program assistant in the Bonner Office of Community Service and Student Development.

Cassi Davis  
**Professional:** Served as a creative consultant for “SpeakEasy: A Theatrical Spoken Word Experience,” conceived and directed by Kenneth Green of the Spelman College Department of Drama and Dance and performed by Spelman and Morehouse students on November 20, 2009 at the Alliance Theater in Atlanta.

Tiwanna Gifford  
**Professional:** Wrote the article, “Giving Foster Children a Voice,” in the AJC.com published on July 22, 2010.

Gabrielle Samuel-O’Brien  
**Professional:** Joined the Spelman College staff as the UNCF/Mellon Faculty Career Enhancement Programs coordinator within UNCF/Mellon Department.

This year The Granddaughters Club, an organization comprised of students whose mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters and/or cousins attended Spelman, celebrated its 100th year anniversary during the 2010 Founders Day and Reunion. Founders Day convocation and Blue Note reception attendees were treated to several theatrical pieces produced by Kenneth Green, Spelman department of drama and dance faculty member, including “The Legacies,” a poignant presentation honoring the Granddaughters Club, featuring Christine King Farris, C’48 and her daughter, Angela Farris Watkins, C’86; Marcia Hanks-Gaines, C’66, and her daughter Cindy Brooks Baumgardner, C’90; Sharon Elaine Owens, C’76, and her niece, Briana Bowie, C’2012; and Mary Jones Vismicale, C’47, and her daughter, Terri Renee Vismicale-Morris, C’80.

The “Legacies”
On May 1, 2010, Chelsey Rodgers, C’2005, was crowned Miss District of Columbia International by the D.C. International Pageant system. In July she competed in the 2010 Miss International pageant in Skokie, Illinois, where she was one of the top 10 chosen for the final competition on July 24. Ms. Rodgers, an attorney, has a solo practice and launched the Miss Congeniality Foundation. She’s dedicated to her platform, “Building Healthy Self-Esteem,” and serves as the chairman of the D.C. Juvenile Justice Advisory Board. In 2008 she served as Miss District of Columbia USA.

Littane Bien-Aime, C’2009, was selected as a 2010 Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellow on March 18, 2010. The Rangel Scholarship supports extraordinary individuals who want to pursue a career in the U.S. Foreign Service. Ms. Bien-Aime interned on Capitol Hill in the summer of 2010 and enrolled at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government in the fall. The Rangel Fellowship will provide her with more than $85,000 over a two-year period to pursue a master’s degree in international affairs. In the summer of 2011 she will work overseas in a U.S. Embassy and upon graduation will become a U.S. diplomat.


Lovette Russell, C’83, was pictured twice in the early spring 2010 issue of Southern Seasons Magazine: in the “Parties for a Cause” section for the Driskell Prize Dinner at the High Museum of Art on April 19, 2010, and, with her husband, Michael, and her father-in-law, Herman Russell, in “On the Horizon” at the Hugh M. Gloster Society dinner on April 7, 2010.
Black Enterprise magazine featured Michelle Saunders Staes, C'91, in the July 2010 issue. Ms. Staes was quoted and her family pictured in the Consumer Life piece, “Summer Travel Deals: Vacations Don’t Have to Cost an Arm and a Leg. We’ll Show You How to Save and Still Have Fun.”

Sheryl Harris Riley Gripper, C'72, recently retired from WXIA-TV, 11Alive, Atlanta’s NBC affiliate. Sheryl was VP/Community Relations of WXIA-TV, 11Alive and WATL-TV 36, for 29 years. Before joining WXIA she was promotion manager at WETV/TV30 and WABE-FM 90, Atlanta public radio. Before joining Public TV and Radio, she was public relations manager for Economic Opportunity Atlanta and a reporting intern for the Houston Post newspaper. With more than 35 years experience in newspaper, radio and television, Gripper now has a new challenge. As executive director of the BronzeLens Film Festival, she is bringing together all the media knowledge that has shaped her long career.

“I am excited about this new challenge,” Gripper says. “The Georgia tax incentives make Atlanta the new mecca for film and digital media production. Atlanta’s rich history makes it the perfect place to do a film festival for people of color. From the largest consortium of African American colleges in the world to the new Civil and Human Rights museum, Atlanta has much to offer.”

The BronzeLens Film Festival celebrates the cultures that make up Atlanta and seeks to produce the next generation of filmmakers. From Tyler Perry Studios to Rainforest Films, the mega production companies are involved with BronzeLens. Roger Bobb, Executive Vice President, Tyler Perry Studios will host the BronzeLens opening night celebration. Will Packer, Producer of the Rainforest Films movie hit “Takers,” will instruct a Master Class on producing during the Festival. The BronzeLens Film Festival takes place November 11–14 at various locations throughout Atlanta.

Gripper, a 1972 cum laude graduate of Spelman College, is also the daughter of a Spelman alumna. Her mother, Dolores Posey Harris, is a 1949 Spelman graduate. In 1977, Georgia State University awarded Gripper earned a master’s in education, and in 2000 she received a master’s in film.

Jacqueline Wellington-Moore, C'53, and her husband George Moore, received the branch service award at the Clairton NAACP Human Rights Banquet. They were pictured in New Pittsburgh Courier, in the “People” section of the June 2–8, 2010, issue. The couple also received a congratulatory note from State Senator Sean Logan.
On April 8, 2010, in historic Sisters Chapel, the Spelman College Founders Day 2010 Convocation, commemorated the 129th anniversary of the founding of the College. **Joy San Walker Brown, C’52**, received the Founders Spirit Award and **Pearl Cleage, C’71**, was the speaker and received an honorary degree. Ms. Brown, a former educator and community servant, has participated in numerous projects, served on boards and lent her talents to several organizations including Leadership Atlanta, Atlanta Chapter of the Links, Inc., Atlanta Committee for Public Education, the Atlanta Clean City Commission, the WXIA-TV-11 Alive Community Service Awards and the YWCA of Greater Atlanta. Ms. Brown has received many honors, including letters of appreciation from Presidents George Herbert Walker Bush and William Jefferson Clinton, and four invitations to the White House. Ms. Cleage is an internationally known poet, playwright, prose writer, performance artist, and a cofounder and editor of Catalyst magazine. Her first novel, *What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day*, was chosen by Oprah Winfrey for her TV book club, exposing her to a global audience. She’s written several best-selling essay collections and novels including her most recent novel, *Till You Hear from Me* (Oneworld/Ballantine), published on April 20, 2010.

**Taronda Spencer, C’80,** was interviewed on the KALA 88.5/105.5 FM radio show, “Relevant or Irrelevant,” examining the relevance of history on June 20, 2009. On May 5, 2010, that episode earned second place in the category of Public Affairs at the Iowa Broadcast News Association’s 2010 Annual Convention Awards. Taronda is a historian and the Spelman College Archivist.

**Joy San Walker Brown, C’52,** received the Founders Spirit Award and **Pearl Cleage, C’71**, was the speaker and received an honorary degree. Ms. Brown, a former educator and community servant, has participated in numerous projects, served on boards and lent her talents to several organizations including Leadership Atlanta, Atlanta Chapter of the Links, Inc., Atlanta Committee for Public Education, the Atlanta Clean City Commission, the WXIA-TV-11 Alive Community Service Awards and the YWCA of Greater Atlanta. Ms. Brown has received many honors, including letters of appreciation from Presidents George Herbert Walker Bush and William Jefferson Clinton, and four invitations to the White House. Ms. Cleage is an internationally known poet, playwright, prose writer, performance artist, and a cofounder and editor of Catalyst magazine. Her first novel, *What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day*, was chosen by Oprah Winfrey for her TV book club, exposing her to a global audience. She’s written several best-selling essay collections and novels including her most recent novel, *Till You Hear from Me* (Oneworld/Ballantine), published on April 20, 2010.

**Taronda Spencer, C’80,** was interviewed on the KALA 88.5/105.5 FM radio show, “Relevant or Irrelevant,” examining the relevance of history on June 20, 2009. On May 5, 2010, that episode earned second place in the category of Public Affairs at the Iowa Broadcast News Association’s 2010 Annual Convention Awards. Taronda is a historian and the Spelman College Archivist.
Marian Wright Edelman, C'60, earned the coveted “Golden Girl” title this year as she celebrated her 50th year reunion in 2010. She was the recipient of an honorary degree at the 2010 Commencement Exercises, where she charged the class of 2010 “to produce the first African American woman President of the United States.” She shared advice from Lessons from Noah’s Ark including “don’t miss the boat,” “remember we are all in the same boat,” and “no matter the storm when you are with God there’s always a rainbow waiting.” She also quoted the late civil rights pioneer Dorothy Height who said, “Black women very seldom do what we want to do but we always do what we have to do.” Ms. Edelman then added, “What we have to do is make sure that the children coming behind us have as many opportunities as you and I have been blessed with. . . . We have to reclaim our children and give them hope. We have to reweave our families, we have to rebuild our communities and we have to reestablish the spiritual values that have been lost in the bathwater of American materialism.” Ms. Edelman was also pictured and quoted in the article “Recruiting Black Men to Teach,” in the July 12–19, 2010 issue of Jet magazine.

Georgia State University’s College of Law graduated four Spelman Alumnae on May 14, 2010. From left to right the graduates are Joselyn Jackson, C’96, Denienne Steele, C’2006, Alisia Goree, C’2007 and Miltonette Craig, C’2006.

Sharla Jackson, C’87, received a day proclaimed in her honor, June 25, 2010, by the City of Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and in Fulton County by Commission Chair John Eaves as a result of her drafting the “Smash and Grab” legislation in collaboration with local and national retailers that was signed into law on June 4, 2010, by Georgia Governor Sunny Perdue.
Lucia Moore Bacote, C’25, attended Reunion 2010 Convocation on May 14, 2010, in Sisters Chapel. At age 103, Mrs. Bacote was the most senior reunioner in attendance.
Golden Girl Class of 1960

Shirley Page-Williams
Brenda Wilson-Alexander
Wilma Boyles-Waller
Caroline Boy-Brittman
Verna Dickey-Browne
Ines Henderland-Boykin
Nina Van Pelt-Cole
Mary Ann Smith-Daniel
Elsie T. McGill-Davis
Gloria Wilkins-Dawkins
Evelyn Cameron-Davis
Julia L. Dean
Mary H. Dillard
Amaree Dugger
Claude W. Fields
Barbara Jones-Enright
Marie Wingender-Elkins
Lillian W. Evans
Ellen L. Entry-Dehydran
Joyce W. Evans-Edwards
Shirley A. Hall
Christina S. Hammond-Heaton
Nora M. James-Henderson
Barbara Banks-Keefer-Johnson
Barbara Neil-Aikens
Joyce G. Jepson
Gila Travers-Johnson
Adella Ann Brown
Wynetta Bowers-McCann
Andrea E. Jenkins
Barbara Jean Jones
Fatima J. Jordan
Mary E. N. Kearney
Barbara Simpson-Lawson
Barbara Strickland-Lewis
Rita Massey-Lewis
Floyd Johnson-Logan
Herberta R. Long-Losurdo
Shirley R. McDonald
Barbara G. Mason
Marlene J. McCray
Ishmael H. McGowan
Mary A. McFadden
Catherine Moore-McQuillan
Charles Mitchell-Murray
Winnie M. Mortell
Goodwin Hughes
Alice Townsend-Peters
Dudley M. Peters
Judith A. Piotrowski
Rhett D. Punn
Almira E. Redd
Barbara Lockhart Robinson
Teresa Rowland
Amelia Wright-Scheper
Kathleen R. Sealy
E. Galvins Bonnie Sparrow
Margaret S. Towey
Cynthia A. Turner
Vernita D. Turner
Eveline M. Williams
Cheryl A. Witherspoon
Jo Ann H. Wills
Joyce Harper Williams
Franzis B. Wint
Rose Marie Wright

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2010 Reunion
Isabella McIntyre Tobin, C’45

September 26, 1915 – January 13, 2010

Isabella McIntyre Tobin was the second of five children born to the late Edson and Mabel McIntyre in Rochester, New York. As a child, she began centering her community spirit as an active member of the Memorial A.M.E. Zion church in Rochester. She later began undergraduate study at New York University then transferred to Spelman College where she graduated with a bachelor of arts degree with a major in sociology in 1945. Isabella went on to earn a master’s degree in social work from Atlanta University in 1947. She joined the ranks of social workers in the city of Atlanta soon thereafter. Isabella’s teaching career began with a sixth-grade class in the Atlanta Public School system. In later years she continued teaching within the high school social studies program. An accomplished and dedicated educator, she concluded her 38-year career after serving an 18-year stint as a much-beloved guidance counselor at Turner High School. In the years following retirement, she continued her legacy by visiting elementary schools, working with children and sharing artifacts from many of the 51 countries throughout Europe and Africa she visited in her lifetime. She enjoyed traveling, gardening, community outings, arts & crafts, and the company of many friends in the city, at the Bowden Senior Citizens Center and at the Summerset Assisted Living Center.

Isabella was preceded in death by her beloved husband, the Rev. Dr. Lucius Miles Tobin. A distinguished scholar and professor of religion and philosophy, Dr. Tobin was a member of the Morehouse College faculty from 1944 to 1969 and also served as pastor of the Providence Baptist Church, then located in the heart of the Atlanta University Center, for 10 years.

Mrs. Tobin was a devoted benefactor of Spelman College. She attended regular reunion and other major campus events and served as past president of the Atlanta chapter of the National Alumnae Association. In 1999, Mrs. Tobin received the coveted Spelman College Founders Spirit Award at the Founders Day Convocation. Since graduating more than half a century ago, her cumulative giving to her beloved alma mater was thought to exceed that of any living alumna. In 2000, she graced the cover of The Spelman Messenger where she shared insights about her philanthropic spirit. “I don’t consider myself a philanthropist — that’s another league. . . . I feel if I have a blessing, it’s my duty to pass it on. Blessings are not meant for me alone,” said Tobin. “I feel that if you’ve graduated from Spelman you need to give back. . . . It’s important to support the school that has given us so much.”

Mrs. Tobin’s services were held on February 9, 2010, in Sisters Chapel.
Beverly Whatley McDonald, C’64  
March 6, 1943 – June 9, 2010

Beverly Pearl Whatley McDonald was a 40-year resident of Oakland, California, where she and her late husband, Lester McDonald, raised their two children, Kevin and Keisha. She was an honor graduate of Spelman, class of 1964, a Merrill Scholar at the University of Norway, and she received her master’s degree in mathematics from Michigan State University. She gave her talents to the University of California-Berkeley from 1971 until retiring in 2004 as director of the Office of the President.

JoAnn Whatley, C’67  
May 6, 1945 – July 18, 2010

JoAnn Whatley was a well-educated woman of many talents. She graduated summa cum laude from Spelman in 1967. After spending her junior year abroad at the Sorbonne in Paris, France, JoAnn worked, studied and traveled extensively in Europe for the next six years. She earned a second degree in French culture and civilization from the University of Paris. Fluent in both French and German, she also studied art and refined her skills as a painter and graphic artist in Vienna, Austria. Upon returning to the states, she earned a teaching certificate from the University of New York and a master’s degree in African American studies from Atlanta University. She taught art at the Children’s Art Carnival in Harlem, Atlanta Public Schools’ Downtown Learning Center and at Spelman College. She is the author of Banking and Finance Careers, published in 1978, and was employed with the IRS as a tax examiner for 17 years.

Geneva Hood Watson-Dean, C’59  
May 7, 1938 – December 24, 2009

Geneva Hood Watson-Dean was born in Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina, to Protestor and Mary Jane Powell Hood. She graduated second in her class from Fuquay Consolidated High School and received a scholarship to Spelman where she received a degree in chemistry. After graduation she earned a master of public administration degree with honors from Long Island University and did postgraduate work at Brooklyn College and Teacher’s College, Columbia University. She received a professional diploma and an advanced degree from Long Island University in school administration and district supervision. Geneva was preceded in death by her husband Robert Lee Dean. She was a member of numerous organizations and received countless awards for her work.

In 2009, after 30 years of service with the New York City Department of Education, she retired from the High School of Legal Studies, Grand Street, Brooklyn. She was the chairwoman of the science department and coordinator for student activities at the high school and was the current president of the New York Alliance of Black School Educators. Due to her generous giving to Spelman College, Spelman has a scholarship in her name, The Geneva Watson-Dean/Texaco Scholarship which is awarded to a student based on scholastic excellence and financial needs.

Mary Elizabeth Bacon Toole  
March 11, 1939 – November 21, 2009

Mary Elizabeth Bacon Toole was born on March 11, 1939 in West Palm Beach, Florida. She attended Spelman College on a scholarship, served as president of her class for three years before being elected to serve as president of the student government during her junior year. Later, she left Spelman and completed her degree requirements for a bachelor of science in physical therapy at Northwestern University School of Medicine in 1966 and earned her master’s in special education from Chicago State University. She married Cornelius Toole and from this union their only child, Jennifer Cornelia Toole, was born.

A natural athlete, Mrs. Toole excelled in basketball and tennis, and earned an invitation to play in the United States Tennis Association Qualifying...
Ollivette Eugenia Smith Allison, C’46
August 1, 1923 – June 3, 2010

Ollivette Eugenia Smith Allison was a native of Georgia and, until age 12, resided with her parents and five siblings. When her parents divorced, she and her two brothers were sent to live at the Carrie Steele-Pitts Home for children in Southwest Atlanta, while her two sisters were sent to live with her grandmother. The home’s director, Mrs. Pitts, saw something special in Ollivette and favored her in many ways, including enrolling her in Laboratory High School. She went on to attend Spelman and then graduated from Atlanta University School of Social Work with a master’s degree. She did her field work at Crews School in Delaware.

Ollivette married twice and traveled all over the country. In 1950, after the death of Mrs. Pitts, she became the first professional social worker of the Carrie Steele-Pitts Home. She received several promotions and eventually was named executive director. She received numerous awards and was exceptionally proud of the coveted Founders Day Spirit Award given to her in 1996 during her 50th-year alumnae celebration.

Ruth Emmeline Scott Simmons, C’37
October 30, 1916 – August 1, 2010

Ruth Emmeline Scott Simmons was a native of Jackson, Mississippi, and the last of nine children born to the late William Alexander and Emmeline Southhall Scott. Ruth learned early in life that education along with a strong belief in God could propel her through life with wisdom, knowledge and a strong sense of humankind. She literally and figuratively became the biggest advocate and ambassador of the Scott family business, The Atlanta Daily World (the first successful Black daily newspaper in the United States), Auburn Avenue and her beloved alma mater, Spelman College.

A former “Miss Maroon and White,” Ruth graduated from Spelman in 1937 and earned her MBA from Atlanta University the following year. She taught at the historic Booker T. Washington High School for a short time before marrying the late James Russell Simmons in 1941. They had a son, James Russell Simmons, Jr., in 1942. In 1943, she began work at the Atlanta Daily World where she would spend the next 55 years. During her tenure there she held several positions including secretary, treasurer, cashier, owner, ambassador and newspaper historian.

A strong advocate of education, voting rights, women rights and the Black press, Ruth was an active member of many social and civic clubs whose missions were to keep individuals socially informed, aware and mobilized with a mission of improving conditions for those less fortunate and in need of a helping hand. She was also devoted to Spelman. As an alumna she demonstrated a lifelong commitment to the College, giving of her time, talents and resources for 70 years as a reunion class agent, a history and traditions facilitator as well as by attending and supporting Spelman’s annual and special events. In 1999, she was awarded the Alumnae Achievement Award in Communications, and in 2004–2005 she participated in the Spelman Independent Scholars (SIS) Oral History Project, being featured in the book, Their Memories, Our Treasures: Conversations with African American Women of Wisdom.

Her services were held on August 7, 2010, at the First Congregational Church in Atlanta.
In Memoriam

1930
Myrtle L. Purnell
Educator
Died: January 15, 2010

Mae Clowney Wilson
Educator, Founding Member, NAASC, Washington, D.C. Chapter
Died: July 9, 2010
Services: July 16, 2010, St. Francis de Sales Church, Washington, D.C.

1934
Mary Emma Garvin
Educator
Died: April 26, 2010
Services: May 3, 2010, Christ Church Detroit, Detroit

Mae Clowney Wilson
Educator, Founding Member, NAASC, Washington, D.C. Chapter
Died: July 9, 2010
Services: July 16, 2010, St. Francis de Sales Church, Washington, D.C.

1939
Irma Ruth Rogers
Educator
Died: March 23, 2009
Services: March 27, 2009, New Emmanuel Baptist Church, Atlanta

Margaret Moore Richardson
Educator
Died: July 11, 2010
Services: July 17, 2010, Catholic Cemetery, Mobile, Alabama

1940
Mable King
Social Worker
Died: August 4, 2010
Services: September 17, 2010, San Francisco

Jacqueline Smith Demons
Loan Processor
Died: September 2009
Services: November 16, 2009, Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Home Inc., Decatur, Georgia

1942
Margaret Moore Richardson
Educator
Died: July 11, 2010
Services: July 17, 2010, Catholic Cemetery, Mobile, Alabama

Kinaya Schenese Byrd
Educator
Died: June 26, 2010, Six House, Hampton, Virginia

1943
Jacqueline Clagett Hawes
Educator
Died: June 24, 2010

Lillian Lewis
Information Scientist
Died: April 10, 2010
Services: April 17, 2010, Willie Watkins Funeral Home, Atlanta

1947
Doris Reed Antoine
Educator
Died: July 6, 2010
Services: July 14, 2010, Palm Mortuary, Las Vegas

1956
Selie Reid Ratchford
Educator
Died: July 16, 2010
Services: July 24, 2010, Church of the Master Presbyterian (USA), Atlanta

Carolyn L. Crawford
Educator and Meeting Planner
Died: February 22, 2010
Services: February 26, 2010, Zion Baptist Church, Reidsville, North Carolina

1959
Caroline T. Crawford
Educator
Died: June 27, 2009
Services: June 30, 2009, Zion Baptist Church, Reidsville, North Carolina

Shirley Ann Jelks
Urban Planner
Died: February 27, 2010
Services: March 10, 2010, Wade Funeral Home, Twin Chapel, Saint Louis

1963
Johnnie M. Tate Smith
Contract Specialist
Died: November 11, 2009
Services: November 16, 2009, Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Home Inc., Decatur, Georgia

Leonard J. Smith
Contract Specialist
Died: January 4, 2010
Services: January 10, 2010, Carter Chapel Methodist Church, Port Arthur, Texas

1968
Shirley Ann Jelks
Urban Planner
Died: February 27, 2010
Services: March 10, 2010, Wade Funeral Home, Twin Chapel, Saint Louis

1974
Jerodene (Jeri) Johnson Scott
Physician
Died: July 2010
Services: July 13, 2010, Lincoln Cemetery, Atlanta

Carolyn L. Crawford
Educator
Died: November 11, 2009
Services: November 17, 2009, St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Atlanta

1984
Lillian Lewis
Information Scientist
Died: April 10, 2010
Services: April 17, 2010, Willie Watkins Funeral Home, Atlanta

1990
Traci Hector
District Manager
Died: June 5, 2009
Services: June 13, 2009, Triumph Church, Detroit

1991
Regina R. McCray
National Accounts Manager
Died: December 24, 2009
Services: January 9, 2010, Carter Chapel Methodist Church, Port Arthur, Texas

1998
Kinaya Schenese Byrd
Educator
Died: February 12, 2010
Services: February 19, 2010, St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Atlanta

2007
Valerie Renee Austin
Died: July 3, 2010
Services: July 9, 2010, Macedonia Baptist Church, Baltimore

2013
Tiana C. Kindred
Student
Died: June 19, 2010
Services: June 26, 2010, Six House, Hampton, Virginia
The Messenger READERSHIP SURVEY

In an effort to continue to provide our readers with enlightening and relevant articles, we would appreciate your valuable input through this survey to help shape future editorial direction and to pinpoint your views. Please complete the following survey and return to: Office of Publications, P.O. Box 1208, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA 30314 or complete this form online through this survey link: http://www.spelman.edu/messengersurvey

☐ Alumna  ☐ Non-Alumna  ☐ Female  ☐ Male

Email address (optional): __________________________________________

1. How do you generally acquire information from Spelman College?
☐ Spelman Messenger
☐ Spelman Connection
☐ Inside Spelman online
☐ Social media (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube)
☐ E-mails from Spelman
☐ Local or national media
☐ Other Spelman publications
☐ Word of mouth
☐ Other

2. How much of The Messenger do you read?
☐ All of it
☐ Most of it
☐ Some of it
☐ None of it
☐ Class Notes only
☐ Other

3. How long do you typically keep an issue of The Messenger
☐ Use as a keepsake
☐ More than one month
☐ Up to one week
☐ Share with others
☐ Discard immediately

4. Is it your general reading habit to:
☐ Read predominantly print
☐ Read predominantly online
☐ Both

5. What topics of interest do you enjoy reading in The Messenger?
☐ Alumnae Achievements /Class Notes
☐ VOICES
☐ Book Reviews
☐ Editorial opinions
☐ Current issues
☐ Individual profiles
☐ Career features
☐ Other

6. Is there any information or features not currently found that you would like to be included in The Messenger?

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

7. Are the articles in The Messenger:
☐ Appropriate length
☐ Too long
☐ Not long enough

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8. Please rate the quality of *The Messenger* on the following:

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9. Please indicate all of the ways in which *The Messenger* strengthens your connection to Spelman.

- Reminds me of my experience at the institution
- Serves as a resource of continuing education
- Encourages me to volunteer my time to the institution
- Encourages me to support the institution financially
- Helps me to feel more in touch with my graduating class
- Provides useful career and networking information
- Other

10. What actions have you taken as a result of reading *The Messenger*?

- □ Attended an event
- □ Volunteered for an activity
- □ Made a donation to the College
- □ Contacted a classmate or friend
- □ Recommended the College to a potential student
- □ Submitted a class note
- □ Discussed or forwarded an article or issue
- □ Saved an article or issue
- □ Visited the College’s website
- □ Written a letter or e-mail to the editor or College
- □ Makes me feel connected
- □ No action taken
- □ Other

11. What issues of *The Messenger* do you consider the most memorable?

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Thank you for participating in the alumnae magazine readership survey. Your time was well spent because it will help us provide to you the kind of magazine you want.
Legendary actress and singer Lena Horne died at the age of 92 on May 9, 2010. Ms. Horne received a Spelman College honorary degree in 1987.

Realize that you can make your voice heard. You can speak out against injustice in every form, against government cutbacks that are killing our cities and our Black families. You don’t have to tear down the system, but use your energies and education to change it.

— Lena Horne, 1987 Commencement Address

Civil rights icon Dorothy Height passed away on April 20, 2010. The 98-year-old activist received a Spelman College honorary degree in 1981. She was the great-great aunt of Miss Spelman 2008–2009, Francesca Gibson, C’2009.

Share the Spelman spirit and vision. The time is always right for equality and justice. Our priorities need to be reordered. Keep the faith, for faith is solid rock and the seed of the kingdom. Be a beacon of light. Share the vision so that others will rise up and call you blessed.

— Dorothy Height, 1981 Centennial Vesper Service
Every Woman...Every Year!

Visit www.spelman.edu to make a gift or for more information.

A Choice to Change the World