

Paths to Success: A Forum on Young African American Men

A Partnership of the Washington Post and the Kaiser Family Foundation

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Marcellus (Bishop) Allen

Born another poverty stricken black male in the city of Newark, “The Brick City,” New Jersey, my name is Marcellus (Bishop) Allen and I am the President of Saving OurSelves (S.O.S.). As an adolescent, like many young men in our inner cities, I encountered various problems which led me to join 9 three gangsta (Blood) set and I have been a member for quite some time. Prior to joining, I have always been disciplined and militant, realizing at an early age that I was a member of that hated group - The Black Man. As evolution engulfed my being, I realized that I walked with another “Set of Foot Prints” and began to walk the positive path in my life. My community services include student workshops on conflict resolution, gang prevention/intervention, and an active participant of the Political Action Committee (P.A.C.) based in Newark, New Jersey.

Dr. Drew E. Altman

Drew Altman is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. The Kaiser Family Foundation is a non-profit, private operating foundation. It develops and runs its own research and communication programs, often in partnership with outside organizations. The Foundation is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries. One of the nation’s largest private foundations devoted to health, the Foundation is a trusted independent voice and source of research and information on health care in the United States. Since 1987, the Foundation has also operated a major program supporting efforts to develop a more equitable health system in South Africa. The Foundation is based in Menlo Park, California, and also operates major facilities in Washington, D.C., including its Barbara Jordan Conference Center and broadcast studio. In 1991, Dr. Altman came to the Foundation and directed a complete overhaul of its mission and operating style, leading to the Foundation’s standing today as a leader in health policy and communications. Dr. Altman is a former Commissioner of the Department of Human Services for the state of New Jersey under Governor Tom Kean (1986-1989). Prior to joining the Foundation in 1990, Dr. Altman was director of the Health and Human Services program at the Pew Charitable Trusts. He was a vice president of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation from 1981 to 1986, and served in a senior position in the Health Care Financing Administration in the Carter Administration. Dr. Altman received his BA from Brandeis University and Masters in political science from Brown University. He earned his Ph.D. in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, did his post-doctoral work at the Harvard School of Public Health, and taught graduate courses in public policy at MIT before moving on to public service. Dr. Altman is a member of the Institute of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is an innovator in the world of foundations and a leading expert on national health policy who publishes and speaks widely on health issues.

Ras Baraka

Ras Baraka, former Newark, N.J. Deputy Mayor, has been called “one of the most consistent, courageous, and insightful activists of his generation.” The son of revered poet-activists Amina and Imamu Amiri Baraka, Ras inherited their proud tradition of artistic excellence and community activism. While a student at Howard University, Ras (sounds like ‘jazz’) formed Black Nia F.O.R.C.E. (Freedom Organization for Racial and Cultural Enlightenment) - a student youth group at the forefront of campus political and social activism. Through the organization, Ras helped organize and participated in food/clothing drives, neighborhood street clean-ups, and tutorials. During his summer breaks, Ras served as Assistant Youth Coordinator for the Commission for Racial Justice. In 1991, he graduated with a degree in political science and history. As an artist, Ras independently released his debut spoken word CD entitled *Shorty for Mayor* in 1998. The multi-talented Ras also edited *In the Tradition* (with Kevin Powell) - an anthology of young Black poets (1991). He is currently working on his second book of essays and poems. Currently, Ras is a vice principal at Weequahic High School in Newark. He formerly taught elementary school for ten years and coached girl’s basketball. Baraka’s love for teaching and education is matched only by his passion for political equality. Baraka ran for Newark’s Mayoral position in 1994, garnering nine percent of the vote - a significant task for the then 24 year old. On September 27, 2002, Ras was sworn in to serve as Newark’s Deputy Mayor. One issue that Ras is passionate about is gang intervention and prevention. Ras served as one of the key organizers and mediators of the Newark Cease Fire/Peace Initiative that took place on May 21, 2004. He was a founding member and served as the Chairman for the historic 1st National Hip-Hop Political Convention held in Newark in June 2004. On November 2, 2005, Ras was sworn in as Councilman-at-large to fill the vacated seat held by the late Donald Tucker.

Philip Bennett

Philip Bennett is managing editor of *The Washington Post*. From 1999 through 2004 he was assistant managing editor for foreign news at *The Post*. During his tenure, The Post’s international coverage was recognized with numerous awards, including two Pulitzer prizes for international reporting, most recently for coverage of the war in Iraq. Bennett joined The Post in 1997 as a deputy national editor for coverage of national security, defense and foreign policy. He came to the paper from the *Boston Globe*, where he was a foreign correspondent covering Latin America and later the Globe’s foreign editor. He has written about Latin America for a variety of magazines. He started in journalism as a reporter for *The Lima Times* in Peru. Bennett grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area and has a degree in history from Harvard College.

Dr. Bill Cosby

Bill Cosby is, by any standards, one of the most influential stars in America today. Whether it be through concert appearances or recordings, television or films, commercials or education, Bill Cosby has the ability to touch people’s lives. His humor often centers on the basic cornerstones of our existence, seeking to provide an insight into our roles as parents, children, family members, and men and women.

Without resorting to gimmickry or lowbrow humor, Bill Cosby’s comedy has a point of reference and respect for the trappings and traditions of the great American humorists such as Charlie Chaplin, Will Rogers, W.C. Fields and Groucho Marx.

The 1984-92 run of *The Cosby Show* and his books *Fatherhood* and *Time Flies* established new benchmarks on how success is measured. His status at the top of the TVQ survey year after year continues to confirm his appeal as one of the most popular personalities in America. His lifelong contributions to American culture were recognized with a Kennedy Center Honor in 1998 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in July 2002, America’s highest civilian honor. Today, Cosby has touched the hearts of a new generation of young children with his Emmy Award winning *Little Bill*

animated series, which aired daily on Nickelodeon and Saturday mornings on CBS. The show was based on Cosby's popular children's books. His interest in young people also spawned his best-selling book, Congratulations! Now What?, published by Hyperion. The book contains his amusing yet wise take on college life and what lies ahead for the new graduate in the real world. Friends of a Feather: One of Life's Little Fables, a Harper Entertainment book released in May 2003, is Cosby's most recent children's book. Illustrated by his daughter, Erika, it is a beautiful story that explores the theme of being true to yourself. I Am What I Ate ... and I'm frightened!!!, Cosby's newest book published by HarperCollins was released on September 21, 2004 and entered the *New York Times* Best Seller List at #5. It offers a hip, humorous, hard-earned wisdom on the healthy lifestyle and the behavior behind it. His best seller Fatherhood was launched appropriately enough on Father's Day as an animated series on *Nick at Nite*. Bill and Camille Cosby in conjunction with Fox Studios premiered a live action/animated Fat Albert motion picture. It has been a box office success. The Fat Albert television show is now available on DVD and is selling briskly. Cosby's initial immediate success began with *Bill Cosby Is A Very Funny Fellow, Right?* and continued with many other comedy albums. He also has released a number of jazz recordings, including *hello, friend: to ennis with love* (released in 1997). Cosby has earned five Grammy Awards for best comedy album. He often neglected his studies for athletics and, after repeating the tenth grade, he left school to join the Navy. He finished high school via a correspondence course while still in the service. When he was discharged, he enrolled at Temple University as the result of an athletic scholarship where he earned academic honors. His goal was to become a physical education teacher. He probably could have made it as a professional football player, but the world is richer in laughter because he decided on show business. As busy as he is with his many ventures, Cosby has been a crusader throughout his career for a better world and for better understanding between people. Besides his involvement with a host of charity organizations, Cosby is also an active trustee of his alma mater, Temple University of Philadelphia. As philanthropists, Bill and Camille Cosby have made substantial gifts in support of education (most notably to predominantly African American colleges) and to various social service and civil rights organizations. In addition, Cosby earned a Masters Degree in Education (M.Ed.) in 1972 and his Doctorate in Education (Ed.D.) in 1977 from the University of Massachusetts. His doctoral thesis was titled "The Integration of Visual Media Via Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids Into the Elementary Schools Culminating as a Teacher Aid to Achieve Increased Learning." Cosby's been busy raising a family, too. He married the former Camille Hanks on January 25, 1964, while she was still a student at the University of Maryland. They raised four daughters (Erika, Erinn, Ensa and Evin) and one son (Ennis Cosby). The family resides in New England. When speaking of Camille, Cosby has urged an amendment to the saying, "Behind every good man there's a good woman." He suggests that "behind" should be substituted by "Three miles ahead." Camille has not only raised five children, but has also been totally involved in her husband's career. She produced his last album and taped two concerts over the past few years. She has received her doctorate in education and plays an active role in a number of important national organizations. Camille has enjoyed great success with the best-selling book Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years. First she produced the property as a Broadway play and then as a television movie. The play was nominated for three Tony Awards and the television film won a Peabody Award. Camille also produced a one-hour sociological documentary film *No Dreams Deferred*, which aired on over 150 public television stations. When Oprah Winfrey debuted her new magazine in April 2000, she chose Camille Cosby as her very first interview.

Dr. Joy Angela DeGruy-Leary

Dr. Joy DeGruy-Leary holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication, a Masters degree in Social Work (MSW) from Portland State University, a Masters degree in Psychology from Pacific University and a Ph.D. in Social Work Research from Portland State University. She has worked in the field of social work for over twenty-five years. Her professional work experience includes extensive specialized work with adolescent and adult male and female prostitutes, homeless youth, and children with emotional disorders, adults with long-term mental illness, and at-risk minority children and adults. Dr. DeGruy-

Leary provides training and counseling in working with people of color, minority inner-city children and youth who are at-risk for dropping out of school, becoming involved in criminal activity and or gangs, and are prime candidates for premature sexual activities and drug abuse. In addition to these services, she works as a consultant to public and private organizations where she provides training in cross-cultural sensitivity, HIV/AIDS awareness, and human resource management in multi-ethnic settings, managing change, and sexual harassment and discrimination law. She has trained numerous organizations which include: agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), officers of the City of Portland Police Bureau, Oregon Health Sciences University, NIKE, Nordstrom Stores, the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, DuSable Museum of African American History, Sisters of Providence Medical Center, and the University of Wisconsin Institute for Multicultural Science Education. She has been an invited presenter at the United Nations Conference on Race in Barbados, the Essence Women's Leadership Summit, the National Association of Black Social Workers Annual Conference, Harvard University, Columbia University, Smith College, the University of Massachusetts, New York University, University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Northeastern University, Villanova University, Oregon State University, the University of Washington, Morehouse University and Fisk University. She has worked with school districts and public and private organizations throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and South Africa. Dr. DeGruy-Leary has pioneered research in the explanatory theory - Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome and authored a book entitled: "Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome: America's Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing," which addresses the residual impacts of trauma on African Descendants in the Americas. In addition, she has developed a culturally based educational model for working with children and adults of color, which is currently being implemented in Portland Public Schools. She has recently created the "African American Male Youth Respect Scale" an assessment instrument designed to broaden our understanding of the challenges facing these youth in an effort to prevent their overrepresentation within the justice system. Dr. DeGruy-Leary currently serves as an Assistant Professor at the Graduate School of Social Work, Portland State University. Dr. Leary's website address is www.joyleary.com.

Mayor-Elect Ronald V. Dellums

Ronald V. Dellums is the Mayor-elect of Oakland, California and will take the oath of office in January 2007. As Founder and Senior Partner of Dellums and Associates, L.L.C., he has continued his progressive agenda as a Washington, D.C. based consultant. He retired from Congress in 1998 after a distinguished career spanning nearly three decades. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Mr. Dellums occupied a number of top leadership positions, including the chairmanship of the House Armed Services Committee, where he advanced legislation addressing mental and community health delivery, pension fund solvency, infant mortality and other national issues. As Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, Mr. Dellums led efforts to redefine national priorities through the budget process. He is renowned for his visionary leadership in helping to end U.S. support for the racist apartheid regime of South Africa. First elected to the House in 1970, against the backdrop of the Vietnam War, Mr. Dellums quickly became one of the leading Congressional voices for peace, disarmament and U.S. participation with the international community in a variety of international programs and initiatives. Respected by his colleagues on both sides of the aisle as an expert on military and foreign policy, he perfected consensus-building leadership as the Chairman of the Armed Services Committee. While perhaps best known for his proficiency on international security issues, Mr. Dellums also distinguished himself with domestic legislative initiatives in the fields of civil rights and liberties, environmental protection, and affirmative action. He was celebrated as one of the most compelling and persuasive debaters in the House chamber. Upon retiring from the House of Representatives, Mr. Dellums accepted the position of President of Healthcare International Management Company. The company was formed to offer managed healthcare products and quality services to public and private sector entities in international emerging markets such as Africa, Central America, Mexico, South America, the Caribbean and China. As a result of his travels to Africa and his profound interest in eradicating HIV/AIDS, Mr.

Dellums conceived the AIDS Marshall Plan for Africa, which evolved into today's Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. President Clinton appointed Mr. Dellums to chair the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS in 1999. In his role, he convened representatives of AIDS service organizations, pharmaceutical companies, medical doctors, clergy, and the U.S. government to seek solutions and promote advocacy, effectively placing the Global HIV/AIDS pandemic center stage in the U.S. discussion on international security. In 2004, Mr. Dellums was asked to work with the Joint Center Health Policy Institute which was established by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in an effort to examine health policies. Consequently, the Dellums Commission was formed to analyze the impact of several key public policies on the physical, emotional, and social health of young men of color and their communities and to recommend actions aimed at reversing many troubling trends. Mr. Dellums served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Constituency for Africa. He is a member of the following Boards of Directors: AIDS Action; The Center for Community Change; the Advisory Committee for MIC Industries; Board of Trustees for the Public Health Policy Advisory Board; Eminent Persons Panel of HIV/AIDS, Strengthening U.S. Leadership, Center for Strategic & International Studies; and the Leon and Sylvia Panetta Institute for Public Policy Institute. He also served as Vice Chairman of the United States-South Africa Business Council from 2001-2003. In his more than 30 years of community and government service, Mr. Dellums has received numerous honors and awards, including the eponymous naming of two buildings in Oakland, Cal. – the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building and the Ronald V. Dellums Building at the Chabot Science Center and Observatory. His contributions to higher education have earned wide recognition, including the establishment of the David R. Brower-Ronald V. Dellums Institute for Sustainable Policy Studies at Merritt College in Oakland. In 2001, Oakland's Mills College established the Ronald V. Dellums Scholarship. In 1999, the University of California, Berkeley, established a Distinguished Chair in his name within its Department of Peace and Conflict Resolution. The Ronald V. Dellums Foundation was established in 1999 to offer college scholarships to students who need assistance to further their education – an effort by Mr. Dellums to offer young people today a catalyst similar to the encouragement he received as a young man from educators, family and community leaders. In 1996, Mr. Dellums was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus in the Hall of Fame of San Francisco State University. He is a lifetime member of the NAACP, the National Association of Social Workers and the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. His archives are housed at the African American Museum and Library at Oakland. Mr. Dellums has authored two books, *Lying Down with the Lions: A Public Life from the Streets of Oakland to the Halls of Power* (2000) and *Defense Sense: The Search for a Rational Military Policy* (1983). His family was the focus of a 2000 Disney movie, "The Color of Friendship," which depicts their experience hosting a white South African exchange student in the 1970s. A California native, Mr. Dellums served as an enlisted member of the U.S. Marine Corps. He received an Associate of Arts degree from Oakland City College, a Bachelor of Arts degree from San Francisco State College and a Master of Arts degree in social work from the University of California at Berkeley. Prior to his congressional service, Mr. Dellums directed a community-based anti-poverty program in the San Francisco Bay Area, enjoyed a distinguished career as a psychiatric social worker, job-training and development program manager, and became a nationally preeminent manpower development and training consultant. He also lectured at San Francisco State College and the Berkeley Graduate School of Social Welfare. Mr. Dellums served on the Berkeley City Council from 1967 to 1971.

Professor James Forman Jr.

James Forman Jr., Georgetown University Associate Professor of Law, was raised on civil rights, but as an adult he has taken the tradition in new directions. His parents met in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), a major force in the civil rights movement in the 1960's. His father, James Forman Sr., was SNCC's executive secretary; his mother was a civil rights activist and nurse. As a young man when Forman entered Yale Law School, it was only natural that he wanted to be a civil rights lawyer. But his trajectory since then illustrates an important lesson about civil rights in the 21st century,

and about where as a professor Forman wants to move the struggle. As a law student, Professor Forman spent both summers working for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, pursuing his dream to become a civil rights lawyer. As a law clerk for Judge William Norris on the Ninth Circuit and Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, however, Forman grew increasingly troubled by the embarrassing records of inadequate legal counsel he saw in countless criminal appeals. Abandoning the more traditional civil rights career he seemed born for, he went to work as a public defender in Washington, D.C. At the time, most of the civil rights community was still focused on traditional issues like employment, education, and housing. But Forman saw criminal justice as itself a civil rights issue – a view that years later has now been embraced by virtually the entire civil rights movement. As a lawyer principally defending kids from the District's high poverty neighborhoods, however, Forman soon began to confront the limits of his role as criminal defense lawyer. In the best of circumstances, he would send his clients back to the bad situation from which they came. He was able to defend them in the courtroom, but not to help them stay out of the courtroom altogether. He began working with David Domenici, son of U.S. Senator Pete Domenici, on a solution. They asked Forman's clients what they needed, and the answer was "work." So they began an after-school program that offered kids who had had trouble in the criminal justice system a job and tutoring. Soon realizing that an after-care program was not enough, Forman took a leave of absence, and in 1997 he and Domenici launched a private tuition-free school, funded by private foundations, and directed, again, toward helping kids in trouble. A year later, the Maya Angelou School (named for Forman's godmother) became a charter school. In 2003, Forman and Domenici received funding to expand to three additional schools in the District over the next seven years. The initial expansion has been a success; in the fall of 2004, Maya Angelou opened a second campus in partnership with the D.C. Public School system.

Steven Holmes

For the last year, Steven Holmes has been a deputy national editor at *The Washington Post*, supervising reporters covering domestic social issues such as immigration, education and religion, in addition to handling coverage of the Supreme Court. Prior to that he worked for 15 years at the *New York Times*, primarily in the paper's Washington Bureau where he covered Congress, presidential campaigns, the State Department and race and demographics. While there, he wrote one story and edited others in the Times' series, "How Race Is Lived in America" which won a Pulitzer Prize in 2001. He also worked at Time magazine in its Chicago, Los Angeles, London and Washington bureaus. He began his career with the *Herald Statesman* in Yonkers, N.Y., and has also worked at United Press International in Dallas, Tex., and *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* in Atlanta, Ga. He is the author of "Ron Brown: An Uncommon Life," a biography of the former Commerce Secretary who was the first black person to head a major political party in the United States. He attended City College of New York, earning his way through college by driving a New York City taxi cab, which he says was the second best job he has ever had. One of his goals in life is to set foot in every one of the 50 states. He has one more to go.

Rev. Donald L. Isaac

Rev. Isaac is the Executive Director of The East of the River Clergy-Police-Community Partnership (ERCPCP), a clergy-led collaboration that was created to address issues associated with at risk and high risk youth and young adults that are in or at great risk of being in the criminal justice system. Since its inception, ERCPCP has grown from a staff of one with one source of funding to the current staff of fourteen with more than ten sources of funding. For the 2003 program year total funding will exceed one million dollars. Before Coming to ERCPCP, Rev. Isaac spent twenty years in the District of Columbia government where he served as Chief Financial Officer for the Council of the District of Columbia and as Senior Financial Auditor for the Office of The District of Columbia Auditor. Rev. Isaac also serves as the Chairman of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Faith Advisory Committee. He is a

member of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee and the Congressional Committee on the State of Black Men and Boys. He also serves on the advisory board of the Riverside Hospital and Treatment Center, a drug program for juveniles and as Senior Spiritual Advisor to Community Action Group, a residential and transitional program for court assigned persons requiring drug treatment. Rev. Isaac has been a licensed real estate broker for more than twenty years and has served as a consultant to a community development corporation and advised the city in the development of programs to assist first time home purchasers. Rev. Isaac has attended the University of the District of Columbia, Howard University and received an A.S. and B.S. in City Planning. Rev. Isaac has also attended the Washington Baptist Seminary and Howard University School of Divinity in pursuit of a Master of Divinity degree. Rev. Isaac is currently pursuing a M.P.A. in non-profit management from the Southeastern University.

Jachin Leatherman

Jachin Leatherman is from Washington D.C. Growing up in the southeast quadrant he attended Martin Luther King elementary school. He then went to Charles Hart Middle School where he became a football player and his academics began to soar. Upon entering the ninth grade Jachin attended Frank W. Ballou Senior High School where his sports and athletics began to become more important features in his life. There he received awards and accolades such as Scholar Athlete of the Year a record three times in a row, was on the National Honor Society, and became Valedictorian with a lot of hard work. Jachin says his dream is to become a multi-millionaire one day and hopes it comes soon in his promising future. He will be attending the College of the Holy Cross in the fall, where he will be a football player.

Dr. Joshua W. Murfree, Jr.

Dr. Murfree is the Department Head at Albany State University for the Department of Psychology, Sociology and Social Work. He is the Director of the Center for the African-American-Male and former Co-Director of the Honors Program. He further serves in the capacity of Faculty Representative to the NCAA Division II. Dr. Murfree serves as the National/International Mentoring Chairman of 100 BlackMen of America, Inc. and at the 16Annual National Conference was elected as the Vice-President of Programs. Dr. Murfree has traveled extensively throughout the continental United States and other countries such as Senegal, Dakar, West Africa, Kingston, Jamaica, London and Birmingham, England, Nassau, Bahamas and St. Croix, Virgin Island. For his work in mentoring and as a consultant to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention he was invited to the White House by Former First Lady Hillary Clinton as she announced the recipients of mentoring grants throughout the United States. Dr. Murfree is a well-known motivational speaker throughout the country. He focuses on realism and getting to the next level, becoming successful, utilizing research, past life events, and faith in God. Dr. Murfree was given the key to the city of Cleveland, Tennessee during the month of April which capped off the Dr. Joshua W. Murfree, Jr., Day for his work with Children and youth throughout the country. Dr. Murfree's professional background is in both Counseling and Clinical Psychology. Dr. Murfree completed his undergraduate work at Fort Valley State College, his Masters at Valdosta State College and his Doctor of Philosophy degree (PHD.) at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Dr. Murfree has spent several years researching teen suicide and teen violence as he has done opening sessions at the Congressional Black Caucus on panels with Dr. C. Deloris Tucker, Congressman John Lewis, Ivan Juzang, Judges Glenda Johnson, James Graves, and Roosevelt Dorn. Dr. Murfree recently co-authored an article on the impact of television, and music on teen violence with Dr. Steven Bell from Berry College. Dr. Murfree is Board Certified as a Forensic Examiner, specializing in interviewing and clinical diagnostic assessment. He is Board Certified in Psychotherapy, a Certified Criminal Justice Specialist, and a Certified Masters Addiction Counselor. Dr. Murfree has a daughter by the name of Tabitha who attends Tennessee State University, with a major in Physical Therapy. Dr. Murfree is a

member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc, and a member of Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge #79 in Rome, Georgia.

Wayne Nesbit

Wayne Nesbit was born in Washington, D.C. and raised by a single father. He has one brother and sister. He attended Leckie Elementary School, Hart Middle School and Ballou Senior High School. While attending Ballou, Wayne was President of the National Honor Society, a member of the Technology Club, MVP for football, received an award for Most Outstanding Athlete of the year and became Salutatorian with a lot of hard work. Wayne will be attending the College of the Holy Cross in the fall, where he will major in computer technology and engineering.

U.S. Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton

Eleanor Holmes Norton is now in her eighth term as the Congresswoman for the District of Columbia. Named by President Jimmy Carter as the first woman to chair the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, she came to Congress as a national figure who had been a civil rights and feminist leader. Norton's work for full congressional voting representation and for full democracy for the people of the District of Columbia continues her lifelong struggle for universal human rights. Her success in writing bills and getting them enacted has made her one of the most effective legislative leaders in the House. She has the full vote in House committees and serves on the Committee on Homeland Security, the Government Reform Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Congresswoman Norton, who taught full time before being elected, continues as a tenured professor of law at Georgetown University, teaching a course there every year. She received her bachelor's degree from Antioch College in Ohio and simultaneously earned her law degree and master's degree in American Studies from Yale.

Charles J. Ogletree Jr.

Charles Ogletree, the Harvard Law School Jesse Climenko Professor of Law, and Founding and Executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice, is a prominent legal theorist who has made an international reputation by taking a hard look at complex issues of law and by working to secure the rights guaranteed by the Constitution for everyone equally under the law. The Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice (www.charleshamiltonhouston.org), named in honor of the visionary lawyer who spearheaded the litigation in *Brown v. Board of Education*, opened in September 2005, and focuses on a variety of issues relating to race and justice, and will sponsor research, hold conferences, and provide policy analysis. Professor Ogletree's most recent book, co-edited with Professor Austin Sarat of Amherst College is *From Lynch Mobs to the Killing State: Race and Death Penalty in America*, was published by New York University Press in May 2006. His historical memoir, *All Deliberate Speed: Reflections on the First Half-Century of Brown v. Board of Education* (www.alldeliberatespeed.com), was published by W.W. Norton & Company in April 2004. Professor Ogletree is a native of Merced, Cal., where he attended public schools. Professor Ogletree earned an M.A. and B.A. (with distinction) in Political Science from Stanford University, where he was Phi Beta Kappa. He also holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he served as Special Projects Editor of the *Harvard Civil Rights – Civil Liberties Law Review*. Earlier this year, Professor Ogletree was named by *Ebony Magazine* as one of the 100+ Most Influential Black Americans. He was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award when he was inducted into the Hall of Fame for the National Black Law Students Association, where he served as National President from 1977-1978. Professor Ogletree also received the first ever Rosa Parks Civil Rights Award given by the City of Boston, the Hugo A. Bedau Award given by the Massachusetts Anti-Death Penalty Coalition, and Morehouse College's Gandhi, King, Ikeda Community Builders Prize. Professor Ogletree has been married to his fellow Stanford

graduate, Pamela Barnes, since 1975. They are the proud parents of two children, Charles Ogletree III and Rashida Ogletree. The Ogletrees live in Cambridge and are members of St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Dr. Alvin Poussaint

Dr. Poussaint is Director of the Media Center of the Judge Baker Children's Center in Boston. He is also a Professor of Psychiatry and Faculty Associate Dean for Student Affairs at Harvard Medical School. He is author of *Why Blacks Kill Blacks*, 1972; co-author, with James Comer, of *Raising Black Children*, 1992; and co-author, with Amy Alexander, of *Lay My Burden Down*, 2000. He has written dozens of articles for lay and professional publications. In 1997, he received a New England Emmy Award for Outstanding Children's Special as co-executive producer of *Willoughby's Wonders*. Dr. Poussaint is an expert on race relations in America, the dynamics of prejudice, and issues of diversity as our society becomes increasingly multicultural. He believes that extreme (violent) racists suffer from a delusional mental illness. He lectures widely on college campuses and also serves as a consultant to government and private agencies. In addition, he is active in consulting to the media on a wide range of social issues. He is concerned with media images and issues regarding the needs of children and the changing family. He is a strong proponent of non-violent parenting and parenting education. Born in East Harlem, he attended Columbia and received his M.D. from Cornell in 1960. He took postgraduate training at UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute, serving as Chief Resident in Psychiatry in 1964-65. At UCLA, he pursued research in psychopharmacology. From 1965 to 1967, he was Southern Field Director of the Medical Committee for Human Rights in Jackson, Miss., providing medical care to civil rights workers and aiding desegregation of health facilities throughout the South. He is former chair of the board of directors of P.U.S.H. for Excellence. In 1967, after leaving Mississippi, Dr. Poussaint joined the Tufts Medical School faculty as director of a psychiatry program in low-income housing developments. In 1969, he joined Harvard. From 1975-1978 he was Director of Student Affairs at Harvard Medical School. He was a script consultant to NBC's *The Cosby Show* and continues to consult to the media as an advocate of more responsible programming. He currently consults to *Little Bill* and *Fatherhood* on Nickelodeon. He is a distinguished life fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the Television and Media Committee of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, and a fellow of the American Orthopsychiatric Association. He has received numerous awards and is the recipient of many honorary degrees.

Dr. Eva Rice Rousseau

Eva R. Rousseau was educated in District of Columbia Public Schools. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and French, a Master of Arts Degree in Counseling, and a Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership. She graduated from the National Superintendent's Academy. She was the former principal of Dunbar Senior High School and lead principal for a cluster of 24 schools in the District of Columbia, director of labor relations and chief negotiator, director of career development and training, and an adjunct professor at George Mason University. She has been the coordinator of the Associates for Renewal in Education (ARE) Child Development Associate Training Program and currently Dr. Rousseau is the program manager for the ARE Therapeutic after School Program. Honors, awards and appointments during her career span include the U.S. Office of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award for Dunbar Senior High School, Washington Post Distinguished Educational Leadership Award, National Association of Secondary School Principals Outstanding Principal's Award, Superintendent's Incentive Award, Danforth Fellowship, Yale University's Comer School Summer Principal's Academy Consultant, the Harvard University Principal's Academy, The Vanderbilt University Principal's Institute, American University Fulbright Resource for Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference and Catholic University Teacher Education Council. Dr. Rousseau also served on the D.C., Delaware and Overseas State Advisory Council for Middle States Accreditation Association of Secondary Schools and

Colleges; participated in educational leadership programs to Asia and Europe and is listed in *Who's Who in American Education*. She has received the Phi Delta Kappa Achievement Award, Grace Basinger Child Advocacy Award and National PTA Phoebe Apperson Hearst Award. Membership on board of directors included McCollough Scholarship College Fund, Center for Educational Change and DC Center for Citizen Education in Law. Community relations consisted of membership on the Howard University Community Relationships Advisory Committee, Shiloh Male Youth Enhancement Advisory Committee, and Ecumenical Council, Empowerment of Shaw Community Project sponsored by World Vision through the Council of Churches of Greater Washington, United House of Prayer Children's Day, Senior Citizen's Committees and teacher in the Madison Academy Summer Vacation Bible School. Dr. Rousseau has made significant contributions to the field of education as a workshop presenter, advocate for autistic and other special needs children, publisher of articles, guest speaker and proposal writer.

Faye Wattleton

Faye Wattleton is the president of the Center for the Advancement of Women, an independent, nonpartisan non-profit research and education institution dedicated to advocating for the advancement of women. From 1978 to 1992, as president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) Ms. Wattleton played an unsurpassed role in defining the national debate over reproductive rights and health, and in shaping family planning policies and programs around the world. As the youngest person and first woman named to the presidency of the nation's oldest and largest voluntary reproductive health organization, Ms. Wattleton's vision, leadership and courage projected Planned Parenthood into the forefront of the battle to preserve women's fundamental right to self-determination. Under her leadership, PPFA grew to become the nation's seventh largest charitable organization, providing medical and educational services to four million Americans each year, through 170 affiliates, operating in 49 states and the District of Columbia. Under Ms. Wattleton's guidance, PPFA also supported family planning programs in dozens of developing nations through its international division, Family Planning International Assistance. Ms. Wattleton holds a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Ohio State University and a Master of Science degree in maternal and infant care, with certification as a nurse-midwife, from Columbia University. In addition, she has received twelve honorary doctoral degrees; Simmons College (1993), Hofstra University (1992), Haverford College (1992), Meadville Lombard Seminary at the University of Chicago (1992), Bard College (1991), Oberlin College (1991), Wesleyan University (1991), Northeastern University Law School (1990), Long Island University (1990), University of Pennsylvania (1990), Spellman College (1986), and St. Paul's College (1985). Ms. Wattleton was a 1993 Inductee into the National Women's Hall of Fame. Her memoir, *Life on the Line*, was published, in the fall of 1996, by Ballantine Books. Ms. Wattleton presently serves on the boards of directors of Savient Pharmaceuticals, WellChoice, Inc., Quidel Corporation, Columbia University, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Pardee RAND Graduate School and the United Nations Association of the United States of America.

James C. (Loose) White, III

My name is James C. White, III, better known as Loose. I grew up with both my mother and father in the household; however, my parents worked a lot to support our home. As I got older, I grew to enjoy the streets. At the tender age of seventeen, I adopted the street organization, known as the notorious CRIP gang. I have many different reasons for joining, but the one that sticks out the most is oppression. By joining this organization, I did not stop oppression, but in some ways I helped to oppress. I helped to form an organization known as Saving OurSelves (S.O.S.). S.O.S. is based on fighting oppression and we offer gang prevention/intervention, mentoring, conflict resolution, and community assistance.

Corey Wiggins

Corey Wiggins is from Hazlehurst, Miss. He attended and graduated from Alcorn State University where he majored in Biology. During his undergraduate studies, he participated in various internships and fellowships at Fisk University, Vanderbilt, University of Rochester and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Corey has also completed a Master of Science in Public Health at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in Health Policy. During this time, his thesis work included an exploratory work linking disparities of health to disparities of incarceration. His work was based on the context that both of these disparities that disproportionately affect communities of color arise from the same “pool of troubles” that includes economic, social and political factors. Before attending graduate school, Corey participated in the Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholars Program. As a scholar, Corey worked in the office of Senator Voinovich and presented a policy recommendation for addressing the problem of the uninsured in rural America. Currently, he is pursuing a doctoral degree at the University of Alabama at Birmingham while working as a Program Manager of a national stroke study assessing Racial and Geographical Differences in Stroke (REGARDS). He is also CEO and co-founder of Executive Edge Investments, which promotes stock market education and investing for young African American men. In continuing his love to reinvest in communities, he is currently involved in the planning stages of developing a nonprofit, Advocates for Exposure, which will expose kids from his hometown to colleges and other post high school programs.