A woman in a purple dress stands in the foreground, looking up at a large mural. The mural features a woman's face in a decorative frame, surrounded by blue and purple patterns. The background is a textured white wall.

LION

A MAGAZINE WHERE BEING **THE FIRST** MATTERS | SUMMER/FALL 2014

ASIA ADAMS

— *Save OUR Children Foundation* —

FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Lion leads, exploring and conquering new territory to expand its kingdom – and the university has been true to its moniker.

Over the previous year, we opened our doors at The Lincoln University – Coatesville campus, further extending our brand into a fast growing community, and thanks to the generosity of General Theophilus Y. Danjuma, the university's extensive collection of African art and artifacts have a home in the new Danjuma African Art Center. We also established a nursing program and certificate programs in cyber-security and game theory as well as signed more than eight articulation agreements with community colleges throughout the region, which hopes to further diversify our campus population.

In addition, the university has continued to strengthen its ties internationally, establishing a program with the government of Baysela State in Nigeria, in which 21 students matriculate here.

And with faculty who continue to excel as members of the Academy, our students from 31 states and 17 foreign countries are assured an academically and culturally enriched environment and experience designed to prepare them as leaders for a global economy.

Now, the start of a new academic year promises no less. Lincoln is positioned for even greater strides. Within some of our dormitories, many students find learning communities – three of which we piloted last year – to enhance academic and social development as well as assist students in developing stronger ties with both peers and faculty.

Over the next five years, those completing programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields, will receive additional support for scholarships, textbooks, lab materials and conference travel costs through a \$3 million National Science Foundation award of which Lincoln and eight other institutions share.

Our students, like lion cubs, are eager to establish their place in the pride as among others who entered and departed through Lincoln's historic Alumni arch. And by example, our alumni, as noted in these pages, continue to show them how to live as a lion.

Robert R. Jennings, Ed.D.
President





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Story By Eric Christopher Webb '91. Photos By Robert Williams.

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LIVING AS A LION

FROM THE EDITOR

Symbols should not be taken lightly. They are imbued with meaning and power, providing the inspiration and context for how we live our lives.

Lincoln's moniker of the lion is no different and transcends that of a mere mascot, but rather permeates the spirit and tradition of our illustrious institution, its founders, first students and the rest of its distinguished alumni.

Just as the name, The Lincoln University, represents us and does not require a qualifier (of PA or of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania) since it predates and outshines the three other Lincoln Universities in the world so it should be with the boldly renamed and ever-evolving, LION magazine, which highlights the successes of our institution, alumni and students.

Throughout history and in various cultures and religions, the Lion has represented a symbol of strength, courage and authority.

In ancient Egypt, the lion symbolized the sun's ferocious heat, represented in the likeness of Sekhmet – the Egyptian goddess known as the Eye of Ra, who protects the good and annihilates the wicked. In ancient Greece, it represented protection and was viewed as a guardian of the dead as well as guardians of palaces, doorways, shrines and thrones. It is also ultimate protector of hearth and home.

The lion is associated with Dionysus, Phoebus, Cybele, and Artemis since myth indicates lions drew the chariots of these gods and goddesses. In Hinduism, the lion is the personification of Vishnu – the Supreme God. In Buddhism, the Buddha sits upon the lion as a throne of consistency, strength and wisdom. In Judaism and Christianity, it is the symbol of the Israelite tribe of Judah, which King David and Jesus hailed as well as represents Jesus in the Book of Revelation.

So, for Lincoln men and women, the symbol embodies how we live and all

that we are challenged to aspire.

Lions are powerfully built and courageous as seen in the example of Shelah Harper '76, who despite overwhelming grief in the aftermath of her own daughter's tragic murder, champions against domestic violence on young women and teens.

Lions are regarded as the most fierce opponents as recognized in the athletic and academic accomplishments of



Miles Green '15 and Genea Butler '17 both recently honored as Lincoln's first male and female U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Academic All-Americans.

A lion's movement, just as the university's progress, is deliberate and self-assured, and even graceful as exemplified by the sophistication and class presented by Lincoln alumni women adorned in hats, gloves and pearls at the Chairlady's Garden Party.

The roar of a lion is loudest of any of its kind, unmistakable and attention-grabbing, heralding a force to be reckoned with, evidenced in the work and

spoken word delivery of alumni poets like myself and Greg Corbin '94 recognized for lifetime achievement and contribution to the Philadelphia poetry scene, the comedic and often irreverent, viral videos of aspiring actor Travis Thompson '12 on social media, or the African American theatrical interpretations of classic theatre by actor, playwright and theatre producer Kash Goins '94.

A lion rules and leads with authority like our University President Dr. Robert R. Jennings, Board of Trustee Chair Kimberly A. Lloyd '94 or Alumnus Major General Roosevelt Allen, Jr. '82, who now commands 1,550 U.S. Air Force health professional operating in eight locations.

But most of all, a lion is most at home and best fellowships, when gathered, in its Pride, similar to our alumni, who when assembled socialize, connect and celebrate like none other at events such as the annual Alumni Picnic & Concert, the Lion Awards, Homecoming Reunion, Founder's Day, Athletic tailgates and Commencement.

**THESE ARE
REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE STORIES IN THIS
ISSUE, AND, AS IN ALL
ISSUES TO COME,
AFFIRM HOW ONE
TRULY LIVES AS A LION.
ARE YOU?**

SUMMER/FALL 2014

President

Dr. Robert R. Jennings

**Interim Vice President for
Institutional Advancement**

Peter A. Caputo

**Director of Communications
& Public Relations/Editor-in-Chief**

Eric Christopher Webb '91

Director of Alumni Relations

Rita M. Dibble

Contributing Writers

Eric Christopher Webb '91

Jason Pompey

Contributing Photographers

Robert Williams

K.D. Morris

Victor Kakulu '07

J.R. Blackwell

**Correspondence and Address
Changes**

The Lincoln University
Office of Communications & Public
Relations

ATTN: Lion Magazine

1570 Baltimore Pike

PO Box 179

Lincoln University, PA 19352-0999

(484) 365-7427

Email

LUComm@lincoln.edu

Website

www.lincoln.edu

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LINCOLN INTRODUCES FIXED-TUITION RATE

The Lincoln University introduces a fixed-tuition plan for incoming students this Fall, setting a fixed rate for four years of undergraduate education. The fixed rate does not include fees or room and board costs.

The Board of Trustees approved the measure at its February meeting, which allows parents and students to know tuition costs in advance and allows them to plan accordingly. Lincoln's total 2014-15 tuition for full-time In-State students is \$7,160 and \$11,836 for Out-of-State.

"With the ongoing struggle that some parents and students face to finance a college education, a fixed-tuition rate provides some welcomed relief and offers an additional incentive for those to choose to attend Lincoln," said President Dr. Robert R. Jennings. "The univer-

sity is doing all we can to remain competitive and at the same time make an education accessible and affordable for all qualified students."

Currently, the university is also engaged in a \$10 million Students First Campaign to raise money for need and merit-based scholarships.

If students do not meet the four year graduation deadline, tuition increases to the particular rate of incoming freshmen and transfer students for that year. Over the last few years, tuition has increased less than 3% a year.

According to the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, about 320 schools nationwide offered these plans from 2012-2013.

UNITED WAY'S STEWART CHALLENGES LINCOLN GRADUATES TO PROTECT BRAND, MAINTAIN COMMITMENT & GIVE BACK

The Students First Campaign Reaps \$35,000 in Contributions During Baccalaureate Service

Dr. Stacey Davis Stewart, the first black woman to serve as President of United Way Worldwide, challenged the more than 350 undergraduates and 150 graduates at The Lincoln University's 155th Commencement to protect their personal brands, maintain pride and commitment as well as be grateful for what they have been given and subsequently give back to help others achieve their dreams.

Dr. Stewart, who along with Rev. Dr. Alyn Waller of Enon Tabernacle Baptist – the largest African American church in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania – were also awarded honorary doctorate degrees during the Commencement ceremonies in the university's stadium.

“Why is it so important for Coca Cola to spend a \$100 million to promote its brand?” she asked, explaining that the company had been in business for about 127 years. “They should be able to coast, right? Coke knows that the moment you stop defining your brand the world starts defining your brand for you.”

Dr. Stewart, who works to protect and enhance the United Way Worldwide's brand and reputation, emphasized that graduates must protect their brands by understanding their own core values and core skills as well as recognizing how important their brands are to employers and as graduates of The Lincoln University.

She explained that they must maintain a certain pride and commitment to protect their brands and to achieve their goals.

“Sadly, today there are too many people who would love to see our community fail, but nothing gives those same people greater pause than by seeing us sharp and committed,” Dr. Stewart said.

She referenced the pride and commitment it took for alums, Lillian Fishburne '71, who became the first African American female U.S. Navy Rear Admiral, Thurgood Marshall '30, who became the first African American U.S. Supreme Court Justice, and lastly Fritz Pollard, while not an alum, but the former head coach of Lincoln's football team during the 1918-20 seasons, who became the NFL's first African American head coach.

“This is the most competitive world today,” Dr. Stewart said. “You are going to need every drop of pride and commitment you can muster. Nobody is going to give you anything you have not





earned.”

She encouraged graduates to thank those who sacrificed, cried and prayed to get them to graduation and that it was that same gratitude that will be demonstrated in how they live the rest of their lives.

“I’ve committed myself to a career where I give back to millions of people across the country,” Dr. Stewart said regarding her position with the United Way, where she drives the strategic direction for United Way in the U.S., working with leaders throughout the United Way network to facilitate community impact in the areas of education, income and health – the building blocks for a good quality of life. “Nothing will ever give you the satisfaction as when you are able to give something to someone else . . . that soul satisfaction of helping someone else live their dreams.”

Class of 2014 Valedictorian Shauna A. Ebanks expressed her gratitude in her address.

“These past years we have created memories far too many to remember in their entirety,” Ebanks said. “Many of us are testimonies of financial miracles (which) have

allowed us to sit here today . . . The Lincoln University has given us a gift. It has provided us with the tools for the rest of our lives.”

Kareem Fulmore, badly injured in a car accident that killed one classmate and injured another in 2011, received his degree as well. Fulmore, now 24, was hospitalized for more than two years after suffering severe burns over 50 percent of his body, two collapse lungs, traumatic injuries and damage that led to the loss of his right foot and left leg below the knee and the loss of use of his left arm.

On Thursday evening, Rev. Dr. Christopher T. Curry, the pastor of Ezion-Fair Baptist Church in Wilmington, Delaware, addressed graduates, parents, students, faculty and staff during the University’s Baccalaureate Service in its International Cultural Center.

“Class of 2014, things are going to happen to you that aren’t going to make any sense,” said Curry, a 1992 Lincoln graduate. “Things are going to happen in your favor that aren’t going to make any sense. People are going to think that because they went to some of these affluent universities

that they are going to get opportunities, but they don’t know the sacred grounds of (The) Lincoln University.”

During the service, Curry, a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. recognized fellow alum and fraternity brother James Jordan ’88, an active funder of the James Jordan Scholarship Endowment since 2007, who presented a \$10,000 gift for his endowment through the university’s first-ever \$10 million Student First Campaign for merit and need-based student scholarships chaired by another fellow fraternity brother, Hollywood legend and philanthropist, Dr. William “Bill” Cosby, Jr.

Jordan, who cited an obligation as an alum to further his alma mater financially as well as an obligation to “young African American men who don’t always get a shot,” was then joined by Dr. Andrew Ray, the fraternity’s 39th Grand Basileus, who offered \$10,000 gift on behalf of the fraternity.

Not to be outdone, Curry, himself, presented two checks, one for \$10,000 from Ezion-Fair Baptist Church and a second from his family for \$5,000. 🐾

FIFTH ANNUAL FULBRIGHT GATEWAY ORIENTATION HOSTED

The Lincoln University hosted its Fifth Annual Fulbright Gateway Orientation from Aug. 4-8.

This year's group included 65 Master's and Doctoral students from 47 different countries, who will study at US colleges and universities. The program, sponsored by the U. S Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ICA), is intended to address two main components: participants' roles and

responsibilities as well as skill development for successful academic and professional lives in the U.S. The week-long experience included seminars and workshops that involve professional development activities and leadership training as well as regional excursions.

Last year, 51 international grantees from 38 different countries participated.





DANJUMA AFRICAN ART CENTER OPENS

The collections of Mrs. Corine Thompson in memory of her late husband, Eugene Thompson, as well as those of Dave and Karina Rilling were celebrated with the first installation of works during the grand opening of Lincoln's Danjuma African Art Center in April. A temporary installation of lithographs, collographs, relief prints included artists representing Nigeria, Cuba, Senegal, and South Africa. The Center is named for General Theophilus Y. Danjuma, a Nigerian Jukun soldier, politician, businessman and retired Chief of Army Staff and Minister of Defense under Olusegun Obasanjo, who is the museum's benefactor and chairman of South Atlantic Petroleum (SA-PETRO) of Nigeria.

Founded in 1854, The Lincoln University has been consistent

in its outreach to diverse communities and people of African descent. African students have always been a strong presence on campus and a vital part of the university's ability to integrate international perspectives in its teaching. The University has been extremely fortunate to receive donations of African art and artifacts from its students, faculty, visiting scholars and dignitaries. This material culture—sculptures, masks, vases, totems, pottery, and jewelry—evidence the spiritual and cultural practices of countries such as Nigeria, Congo (DRC), Ghana, Cameroon, Liberia, Ethiopia and Angola.

The collection is constantly growing and has become a significant resource for academic inquiry and a means to affirm the rich heritage that connects The Lincoln

University community to its history of engagement with students of African descent.

The new Danjuma African Art Center represents a new stage in the development and accessibility of The Lincoln University's African Collection and programming, which will bring increased cultural awareness and enrichment to our academic programs and student life on campus. Through the Danjuma African Art Center, the University will not only unveil its collections through permanent and changing installations, it will present a new series of programs to educate and entertain around African art and culture, and its growing influence in the global society.

For more than 90 years, a number of individuals have made significant contributions to the



growth of the University's African Art Collections. The galleries at the Danjuma African Art Center will highlight the gifts of Robert Freeman, Jr. '41, Franklin H. Williams '41, Rev. Irvin W. Underhill, Jr. D.D., F.R.G.S. in memory of his wife, the late Susan Reynolds Underhill, Mrs. Corine Thompson in memory of her late husband, Eugene Thompson and Dave and Karina Rilling, among others.

Additional galleries and space will be dedicated to rotating installations of the contemporary art collection, including those donated by alumni and prints from the Brandywine Workshop. Evelyn Ireland-Hurd, Ph.D., wife of the late Charles S. Ireland, M.D. '36, donated four Norman Lewis paintings. Painter Lewis, an African American artist of Bermudian descent, is

associated with Abstract Expressionism. A classroom and student art display space is also planned.

The Center will periodically schedule special loan installations of related art and artifacts as well as art by contemporary African artists to help visitors reflect on current trends in the era of Post Modern art. The African Diaspora artists living in the Americas, Europe and other areas will also be presented when the artworks express ideas or practices that illuminate their journey and represent universal concepts of humanity – its struggles, beliefs, motivations and successes. The more complex and divergent narratives that will be presented through art and culture will invite our local and extended communities around Lincoln to visit and explore us. 🐾





The Students First
CAMPAIGN

Dr. William "Bill" Cosby, Jr., General Chair

Kevan Turman '01, MSR '08, Campaign Manager

To make a contribution, call: 484 - 365 -7440

A woman with a black headwrap and a purple sleeveless dress is walking on a city sidewalk. She has a small blue pin on her chest. The background shows a street with cars, trees, and utility poles.

SAVING OUR GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN

*By Eric Christopher Webb '91
Photos By Robert Williams*

Ten years ago, Shelah Harper's life changed forever. It began with a phone call. She was two hours away on a retreat, in Chesapeake, Md., where she had been since Friday working on her business plan. Her daughter, Asia, 21, was to accompany her, but backed out at the last minute.

A neighbor, who lived across the street, called and said her West Seymour street home in Philadelphia was on fire.

“I was speeding up 95,” she recalled. “I probably got there in an hour. When I pulled up to my house, there was yellow tape surrounding the home and the police said there was a body inside.”

The body was that of her daughter – Asia Adams, then a senior psychology major, on a full academic scholarship at West Chester University. She had remained home with her then-boyfriend, Thomas Strode, over the weekend, without her mother’s knowledge. Strode, a man she had been dating for four months, and his friend, Simeon Bozic, brutally tortured and then murdered her in the basement of the home.

The motive – appeared to be robbery. Harper explained that Asia had previously told Strode that she had received an inheritance after her aunt’s death.

“Asia was breaking up with him, but in the meantime he also had this information,” Harper said. “I was told by her friends this was something she shared with her him, and Asia thought he was someone she could trust.”

Based on evidence and testimony, the men brutally beat Asia with a shovel until she revealed her ATM pin and then they cut her throat several times. The next day, the pair set fire to the house in an attempt to conceal the crime and used Asia’s ATM card to withdraw money and go on a shopping spree. In the 10 days it took law enforcement authorities to capture Strode and Bozic, the savagery of the crime made national news and Harper struggled through her grief and sleepless nights, gathering

Asia’s friends to determine who she had last been with, and somewhere in between, she did something unexpected, something extraordinary.

She pulled out her laptop and started to write – what she wrote and created was the program for the Asia Adams Save Our Children Foundation, an organization which aims to improve, preserve and save the health and welfare of children and youth through education, advocacy and direct service supports.

“I had to refocus my energies into something positive,” she said, her voice slowing. “I didn’t want this to happen to anyone else’s daughter. It was horrible. I really had a strong faith that there must be a purpose why this happened to my only child, because of the strong love I had for my daughter, and especially since I had done a lot of paid work with children as a Child Behavior Specialist, and volunteer work on infant mortality. God must have had a mission for me. I put my entire being in the research and prevention of teen dating violence (TDV).”

For 25 years prior, Shelah’s consulting firm, Health Revenue and Management Consultants, had serviced nursing homes, hospitals and other medical providers, but after the murder she never returned to her job.

Harper, who received a bachelor’s of arts (BA) degree in Psychology from Lincoln in 1976, also had earned a master’s in business administration (MBA) degree in Health Administration from LaSalle University. Robert Adams, Asia’s father, was a 1974 Lincoln graduate. (Harper and Adams’ relationship ended while Asia was a child though he remained in his daughter’s life.)

Over the next three years, after Asia’s death, Harper lived exclusively off her savings and proceeds from a prior lucrative sub-contract with the city of Philadelphia relating to HIPPA assessment/implementation and continued to pay rent at her former physical office on the lobby level at 5450 Wissahickon Avenue.

And then through a major coup, the building’s owners, who were remodeling and moving their management offices, offered the upstairs space for the headquarters of her new organization and life mission, where it now resides.

Even now, Harper does not earn an income from the foundation, which focuses its efforts on girls 4 to 24 years of age.

Since its establishment, Harper has worked with more than 7,000 young people through assemblies and workshops at schools, afterschool programs, community organizations, colleges and churches. Harper and her volunteers or paid summer workers also engage young people wherever they can, including street corners, parks or events. The group recently held outreach campaigns on Kelly Drive in Philadelphia – popular for jogging, biking and roller skating as well as on the corner of Germantown and Cheltenham Avenues, where the group distributed free water ice and TDV literature to passersby. In addition, she passionately educates and lobbies politicians for teen dating violence legislation and pushes for its inclusion in the health curriculums of public schools.

Harper contends that teen dating violence, which is among the leading causes of death for female teens and women between 16 and 24 years old, continues to be perva-

sive.

According to a Pennsylvania State Health Department report, which the foundation helped to compile as part of a consortium of organizations on teen dating violence, 44% of rape victims are under 18 years old. Nationally, 9.8% of young women have experienced dating violence. The state rates of dating violence, she said, are the same, but in Philadelphia, the rate is as high as 19%.

One reason she said, is attributed to community efficacy or lack of – how responsive your neighbors are to situations, how likely are they to intervene, do neighbors know each other?

In 2012, the foundation collaborated and completed a study with the University of Pennsylvania's School of Nursing, which verified the correlation between poverty and teen dating violence, examining upbringing, environmental experience and awareness of 200 girls, between 14 and 18 years old in the Nicetown/Tioga communities as well as in Germantown and North Philadelphia.

"There's a relationship between communities of poverty and teen dating violence," she explained though not the case with Asia. "It appears that it's overwhelmingly African American, but if you were to go into Kensington, a predominately poor white and Latino area, the numbers are about the same."

In that same year, West Chester University's Women's Center established the Asia Adams Violence Against Women Grant to help address the problem of violence against women on college campuses. The overall purpose and objective of this grant is to promote student-led projects and/or programming that educates the campus community about violence against women, including sexual assault, rape, stalking, dating violence, and domestic violence.

What is eerily ironic is that prior to Asia's murder, she was working on a research project with one of her West Chester professors on violence against women – the second of such projects.

This summer, female teenage workers helped refine brochures and posters on teen dating violence along with a focus group of West Chester students. The posters, to be part of a public transit awareness campaign on Septa, depicts derogatory pop culture imagery of women like Nikki Minaj and others, as well as lyrics from various Rap artists that debase women, forcing people to confront the acceptability of what they so easily consume without a second thought.

"Young women develop a poor self image

because of (these images and lyrics in the media)," Harper said. "It encourages young women and girls to tolerate abuse – you know negative attention is better than no attention (for some), promotes early sexual activity amongst girls, but they don't know (what's wrong with this material) until we engage them in discussion. At first, they didn't see anything wrong with it, but by the time we got finished they weren't liking it. They didn't want to hear it (the lyrics)."

Harper said that the foundation defined misogyny and what teen dating violence involved, not only the physical abuse, but the psychological and emotional abuse, which she said is much more subtle, along with financial abuse, where the male might pay for dinner and expect sex, steal her money or even ask to borrow her money, but never pay it back.

"The bottom line is we are trying to teach them to be more discerning, evaluate what they are exposed to, what they engage in and what they support," she said.

Tiara Davis, 18, who is one of Harper's summer employees and will be attending Neumann University this fall, said working there has not only changed her perception, but increased her awareness. "Honestly, I was just like everybody else," she said. "I just listened to the music. I never understood about teen dating violence, I never thought it was such an issue. On the way to and from work every day, I am aware of my surroundings, perceptions of everything I do now. It has changed my perception on relationships and I never thought stalking was a form of abuse."

Harper continued that not only young women need to understand, but young men as well.

"The issue is when you have young men who have been weaned on this (demeaning lyrics and imagery) stuff and it's like subliminal seduction," she said. "We need men as allies. You (men) don't want your mothers or sisters to be talked about in that manner (or treated that way)."

Harper said that many young men don't speak up or intervene against teen dating abuse or violence for fear of being called or perceived as gay since they often wrongly associate manhood and heterosexuality behavior with the previous. Ironically, she added, teen dating violence is also prevalent in the gay community, where it is more "hush, hush," more taboo. In addition, the foundation also works with young men though programs like Vision Quest, a program for juvenile offenders.

"We teach young men to speak up- speak out,"



Harper said, “doing nothing is like condoning it (if they let things just happen). Letting young men know that hitting girls is a crime, and having sex without consent is a crime. We don’t want these young men to get back into trouble. A lot of young men think when women say “no” they can convince them, especially when alcohol is involved. They (young men and women) need to pay more attention when there’s drinking or use of drugs because they (young women) can’t (legally) give consent. So if that (girl or) woman would turn round and say he raped me that young man could end up in jail.”

But even through her impassioned work, she admits, the grieving hasn’t ended.

“There’s not a day that goes by that I don’t think about my daughter, every minute of every day,” she said. “I still have sleep problems. Nights, where I can’t

sleep, but I just pick up my Bible and start reading, then working.”

In addition, Harper said she practices Yoga and African dance – hobbies, she adopted during her Lincoln days. After the tragedy “when (dance) class was over, the drummers would continue to play until I would just fall out. I would just dance until I couldn’t dance anymore in terms of getting all that anger and anxiety out.”

In 2006, Harper even became certified as a Yoga instructor – that practice has allowed her to continue to help others, now teaching it as part of stress management and life skills to homeless women and children under the foundation through Northwest Interfaith Hospitality Network.

Today, a mural erected in Asia’s honor in 2008 stands near the old Germantown High School, where Harper (not Asia) once attended, not too far from their for-

mer home, where the murder took place.

That house has remained empty.

“There’s no way I could have lived in that house,” she said. “The house was one of those issues I couldn’t deal with at all. I just had to cope with the fact that my daughter was gone. I still can’t go in there by myself. I’ve gone in there with volunteers to clear it out, but it was probably a couple of years (later). It was like a house of horrors.”

Her plans now are to convert it to provide transitional housing for homeless women and their children, one family at a time.

“You have so many young women who have come up through the foster care systems who end up homeless and have no support systems,” she said. This way it gives back, and takes a house of horrors and turns it into something useful. That’s the hope.” 🐾

LINCOLN AWARDED \$3 MILLION NSF STEM GRANT

The Lincoln University is among nine regional institutions, who will share a \$3.175 million National Science Foundation award to significantly increase the number of students completing high quality degree programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

Rep. Chaka Fattah (PA), the lead appropriator for the agency, announced the award in July.

The funding from NSF will support the Greater Philadelphia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program. Headed by Drexel University, the initiative includes STEM outreach and retention programs not only at Lincoln, but Cheyney University, Delaware State University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Temple University, University of Delaware, University of Pennsylvania and the Community College of Philadelphia.

Lincoln will receive nearly \$120,000 over the course of the five year grant for scholarships for high achieving STEM students, textbooks, lab materials for student researchers and travel costs for conference presentation opportunities. Dr. Robert Langley, Professor of Chemistry & Physics, is the grant's primary investigator and director for the program, which also provides mentoring and tutoring components.



WALLER ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT OF HBCU LAW ENFORCEMENT BOARD

Captain Ruth A. Evans-Waller was recently elected Vice President of the Historically Black Colleges & Universities Law Enforcement Executives and Administrators, Inc. (H.B.C.U.-L.E.E.A.) Board.

Waller, who is Assistant Director of Public Safety and R.A.D. Systems Instructor at Lincoln, has served on the law enforcement board since 2004 as its Financial Secretary.

The organization, which represents all 105 HBCU's and meets annually, was established in 1999 for those law enforcement officials and executives to receive training, partnerships and education on dealing with mutual challenges. The group also receives training from the White House Initiative on HBCU's Office of Civil Rights and the U.S. Department of Education.

LINCOLN LIONS FOOTBALL PREDICTION ANNOUNCED

By Jason Pompey

The Lincoln University Lions Football Team is predicted to finish sixth overall in the 2014 CIAA Northern Division, announced on Thursday, July 24 as part of the CIAA's football media day. Senior wide receiver Akeem Jordan (Washington, DC/Carroll HS) and junior defensive back Brion Robinson (Silver Spring, MD/Springbrook HS) were both recognized as well, chosen to a 22-member Preseason All-CIAA Team.

Akeem Jordan (Washington, DC/Carroll HS) capped the 2013 season by earning a spot on the 2013 All-CIAA Offensive First team after ranking second in several CIAA statistical categories; receptions (65), receptions per game (6.5), total receiving yards (913), receiving yards per game (91.3), and touchdown receptions (12).

Jordan caught a season-long 74-yard reception and finished with a season-high of 153 yards receiving against Bowie State (11/2). In five games, Jordan had over 100+ yards receiving. He caught a season-high three touchdowns against Cheyney (9/7) while scoring at least one receiving touchdown in eight games. He broke The Lincoln University's single-season receiving record, receiving touchdowns record, total points scored (72), and touchdowns scored with his 2013 season performance.

Brion Robinson (Silver Spring, MD/Springbrook HS) was a member of the 2012 CIAA All-Rookie Team. Robinson led the squad with 86 tackles and

in pass breakups with six. He was named the CIAA Defensive Back of the Week for the week of 9/20-10/6 after leading the Lions defense with 17 total tackles against the Golden Bulls of Johnson C. Smith University. He had a career-high 11 solo tackles from his safety position and assisted on six other tackles while breaking up two passes.

Winston-Salem State was predicted to finish first in the CIAA, while Fayetteville State and Virginia State complete the top three. Shaw was predicted fourth, Elizabeth City State was fifth, and Bowie State sixth. Johnson C. Smith was seventh followed by Chowan, St. Augustine's, Virginia Union, and Livingstone.

On Sept. 4, Lincoln defeated Cheyney University 30-18 in its first-ever ESPN televised *The Battle Of The First* opening game – the sixteenth such meeting between the two universities who each claim to be the oldest HBCU. The game was the sixth consecutive season opening clash Lincoln has hosted.

Politically, The Lincoln University stands out as the oldest HBCU because it was chartered in 1854 as a higher education institution. Cheyney existed for a longer period of time, but not as a university. Cheyney was established in 1837, but didn't award college degrees until 1914.

On the gridiron, the Lions have dominated the overall series 11-2-1. In 2012, the teams opened up the new LU Stadium with Cheyney downing Lincoln, 34-21. The Lions have defeated the Wolves in four of the past six meetings including a 33-28 win in 2013 at O'Shields-Stevenson Stadium.

Lincoln's Head Football Coach Ramon Flanigan guided his team to a season-opening victory against the Wolves last season snapping a two-year skid in the rivalry. He is undefeated in the rivalry as the Lions found the end zone several times thanks to an aerial assault by the duo of quarterback Doug Cook and wide receiver Akeem Jordan's three touchdown-reception performance.



**THE COMPLETE 2014 FOOTBALL
SCHEDULE FOR LINCOLN FOLLOWS:**

Sept. 4 – Cheyney (Battle of the First)*
Sept. 13 – North Carolina Wesleyan (Military Appreciation Day)*
Sept. 20 – at Montclair State
Sept. 27 – at Shaw
Oct. 4 – Fayetteville State (Hall of Fame/Health & Wellness Day)*
Oct. 11 – at Virginia Union
Oct. 18 – Elizabeth City State (Homecoming)*
Oct. 26 – at Virginia State
Nov. 1 – Bowie State (Senior/Family & Friends Day)*
Nov. 8 – at Chowan

*Home Games



BUTLER & GREEN HONORED AS USTFCCCA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICANS

By Jason Pompey

Two Lincoln Lions, Genae Butler '17 and Miles Green '15, received U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) Academic All-American honors at ceremonies in New Orleans, LA on July 22.

Butler (Baltimore, MD/Western HS) became the first female USTFCCCA Academic All-American at The Lincoln University. Butler, then a freshman health science major with a 3.32 cumulative GPA an-

chored the Lady Lions 4x400m relay team that provisionally qualified for the NCAA Division II Outdoor Championships. LU ran a season-best time of 3:47.37 at the Roanoke/Virginia Tech Twilight Qualifier on May 8.

Miles Green (Baltimore, MD/Baltimore Polytechnic Institute), then a junior business major with a 3.29 cumulative GPA, ran a personal best time of 48.13 at the Virginia Challenge on May 9. In March, Green represented The Lincoln University at the 2014 NCAA Track and Field Championships in the men's 400m dash.

Including the Scholar Athletes of the Year, a total of 422 women from 99 institutions earned USTFCCCA All-Academic honors for their combined academic and athletic accomplishments. On the men's side including the Scholar Athletes of the Year, a total of 241 men from 73 institutions earned USTFCCCA All-Academic honors for their combined academic and athletic accomplishments.

To qualify for the USTFCCCA All-Academic Track and Field Team, the student-athlete must have compiled a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 and have reached a provisional or automatic qualifying standard for the NCAA Championships in either indoor or outdoor seasons.



MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH HILL NAMED TO NCAA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

By Jason Pompey

The Lincoln University Men's Basketball Head Coach John Hill was recently appointed to the NCAA Division II Men's Basketball Atlantic Regional Advisory Committee.

Coach Hill will represent the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) along with co-representative Head Coach Darryl Brooks of Bowie State University. Coaches and administrators of the three conferences comprise the Atlantic Region's committee - the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA), Pennsylvania State Athletic Con-

ference (PSAC), and Mountain East Conference (MEC).

Hill, a 1990 Greensboro graduate, is in his fifth season as head coach of the Lions. In January 2014, he was named CIAA Coach of the Week and capped the season winning the 2014 ECAC Men's Basketball Tournament Championships, marking the Lions' 20th win of the season. The Lions notched consecutive winning seasons in back-to-back years from 2012-2014 and were crowned CIAA Northern Division Champions of the 2012-13 season.



2015 CIAA Basketball Tournament Official Team Hotel Properties

Hotel Name	Address	City/State	Zip	Phone
Aloft Charlotte Uptown	210 East Trade Street	Charlotte	28202	(704)333-1999
Charlotte Marriott City Center	100 West Trade Street	Charlotte	28202	(704)333-9000
Comfort Suites Pineville	10415 Centrum Parkway	Pineville	28134	(704)540-0069
Crowne Plaza Executive Park	5700 Westpark Drive	Charlotte	28217	(704)527-9650
Fairfield Inn & Suites Uptown	201 South McDowell Street	Charlotte	28204	(704)319-5100
Hilton Charlotte Center City	222 East 3rd Street	Charlotte	28202	(704)377-1500
Hilton Charlotte University Place	8629 J.M. Keynes Drive	Charlotte	28262	(704)547-7444
Holiday Inn Center City	230 North College Street	Charlotte	28202	(704)335-5400
Holiday Inn Charlotte University	8520 University Executive Park	Charlotte	28262	(704)547-0999
Hyatt Place Charlotte Downtown	222 South Caldwell Street	Charlotte	28202	(704)227-0500
Le Meridien Charlotte	555 South McDowell Street	Charlotte	28204	(704)372-4100
Omni Charlotte	132 East Trade Street	Charlotte	28202	(704)377-0400
Renaissance Charlotte Suites	2800 Coliseum Centre Drive	Charlotte	28217	(704)357-1414
Sheraton Charlotte Hotel	555 South McDowell Street	Charlotte	28204	(704)372-4100
Springhill Suites Charlotte Airport	3055 Scott Futrell Drive	Charlotte	28208	(704)405-6061

NEW FACES AT LINCOLN



DR. DARRYL A. POPE

Director of Athletics
Start Date: 3/31/14



JACOB MULLINS

Director of Compliance
Department of Athletics
Start Date: 5/27/14



PETER A. CAPUTO

Interim Vice President
Institutional Advancement
Start Date: 7/1/14



EVAN CAMPERELL

Head Coach-Women's Soccer
Department of Athletics
Start Date: 7/29/14



KIMBERLY TAYLOR-BENNS

Associate Vice President
Enrollment Management
Start Date: 9/8/14



JOSEPH JOHNSON

Controller
Business Office
Start Date: 9/15/14

NEW APPOINTMENTS:

KEVAN TURMAN '01, MSR '08

Campaign Manager
Institutional Advancement
(formerly Special Assistant to the
President)

DR. LENETTA R. LEE '85

Interim Vice President
Student Affairs
(formerly Associate Vice President,
Student Affairs)

WARREN MERRICK

Assistant to the President/Researcher
Office of the President
(formerly Program Officer, Alumni
Relations)

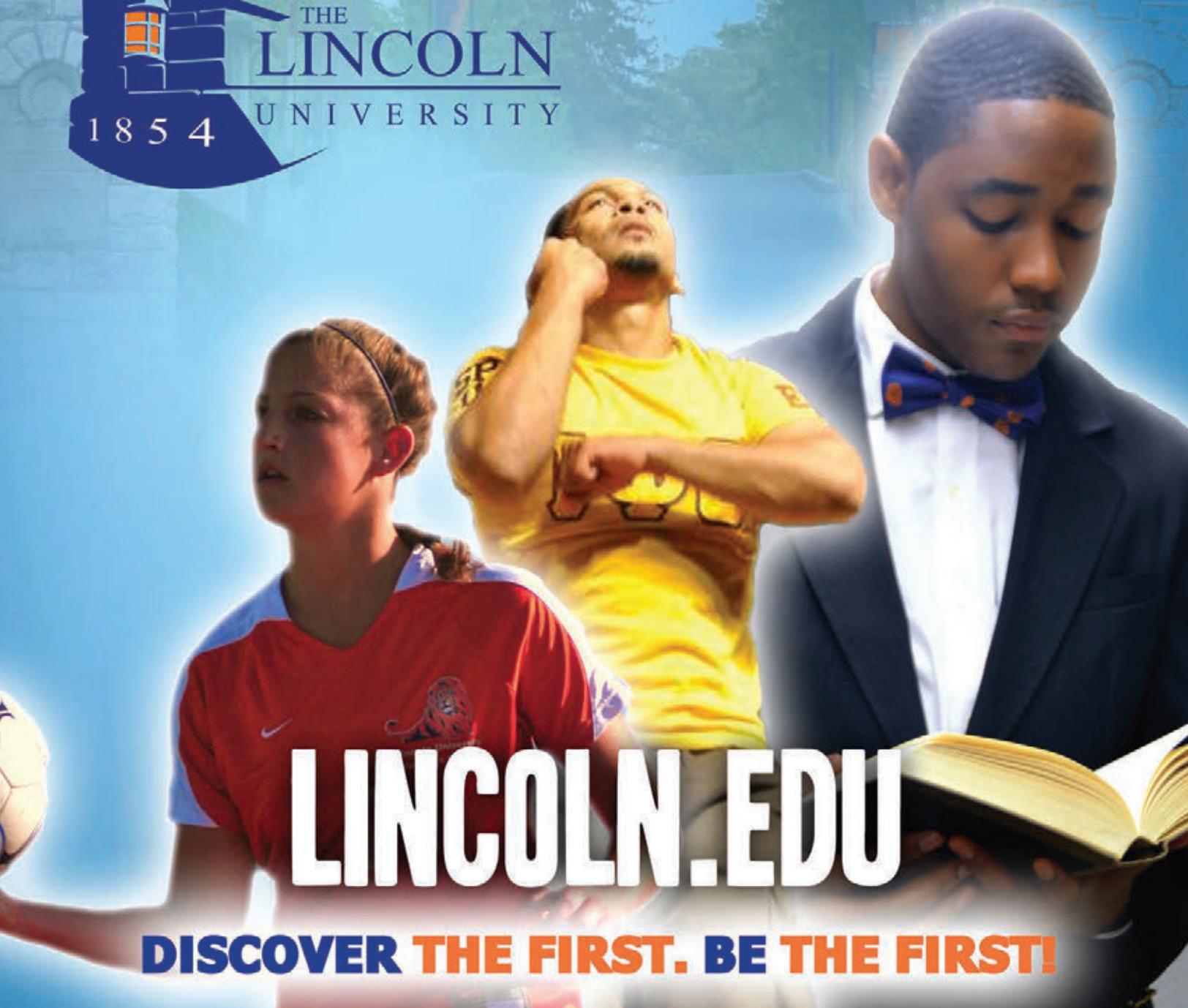
SUSAN POWELL

Dean of Students
(formerly Director, Upward Bound)

DR. DERRICK SWINTON

Dean, College of Science and Technology
(formerly Chair, Department of
Chemistry & Physics)

WHERE BEING **THE FIRST** MATTERS.



DISCOVER THE FIRST. BE THE FIRST!



THE VITAL PART FOR PROGRESS

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

The message that alumni are a vital part of Lincoln's progress is one constantly affirmed by fellow alumni and the Office of Alumni Relations. As I begin my third year as Alumni Relations Director, I thought we might explore Lincoln's place in the arena of alumni giving at Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs). Over all, financial contributions to colleges in the U.S. rose 9 percent in 2013, and alumni can take credit for much of that increase. Of the \$33.8 billion donated to higher education institutions in 2013, 26.6 percent came from alumni, according to a Council for Aid to Education report.

At many HBCUs the average percentage of alumni giving hovers below 10 percent. But some Black institutions have alumni who contribute at a much higher rate, according to data submitted to U.S. News & World Report by 45 ranked institutions.

At Claflin University, for example, 43 percent of alumni contributed. It had the highest two-year average of alumni giving among HBCUs during the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years.

According to data published by Will Moss on HBCUconnect.com, other schools that also had higher than average alumni giving rates included Spelman, Morehouse and Livingstone Colleges, Tuskegee, Central State and Fort Valley State Universities; these institutions reported alumni giving from as high as 43 percent to 17.2 percent. The average rate among all 10 schools with the highest average percentages was 23.1 percent. So where do we stand among our peers?

In fiscal year 2012-13, Lincoln alumni participation rate increased from seven percent the previous year to 9.5 percent. This increase is worth celebrating since it brings us closer to the average

giving for all HBCUs. However, average is NOT what this university or its alumni consider itself, and I know we can do much better than nine contributors out of every 100 alumni.

There is no substitute for alumni support. Since every gift of any size ensures our stability and viability, I strongly urge you to use the envelope enclosed in this issue of the Lion and send in your annual gift. Let your love for your alma mater show in a way that can have such a profound impact and join your peers who already have done so.

Let me emphasize that I welcome any and all conversations. Please do not hesitate to contact your Office of Alumni Relations at 800-726-3014 or at alumnirelations@lincoln.edu.

A woman with a warm smile stands on a light-colored paved path outdoors. She is wearing a vibrant orange wide-brimmed hat with a large floral detail, a multi-strand pearl necklace, a dark blue short-sleeved dress, and matching orange gloves. The background features lush green trees, a black lamppost, and a building in the distance under a clear sky.

ALUM
RABBLE

CROWNS
& PEARLS:

CHAIRLADY'S GARDEN
PARTY SHOWCASES
SOPHISTICATION & CLASS
OF LINCOLN LADIES

The Lincoln University hosted its inaugural Chairlady's Garden Party on the picturesque lawn of its historic Alumni House on Saturday, June 20. Proceeds from the event benefited Lincoln's first-ever \$10 million The Students First Campaign, an endowment campaign for need and merit-based scholarships.



Nearly 200 guests — the ladies adorned in hats, gloves and pearls while the gentlemen donned seersucker and linen suits or cool breeze shirts and slacks — were in attendance and provided with light Hors d'oeuvres and a live jazz trio, who played throughout the afternoon.

“It was a marvelous event that not only showcased the style and class of Lincoln’s alumni and supporters, but helped to raise scholarship funds for deserving students,” said Lincoln’s Board of Trustees Chair Kimberly Lloyd ’94.

Currently, Lincoln lacks the funds to compete for and support the best and brightest students. And more than 96 percent of Lincoln’s current students depend on financial assistance.

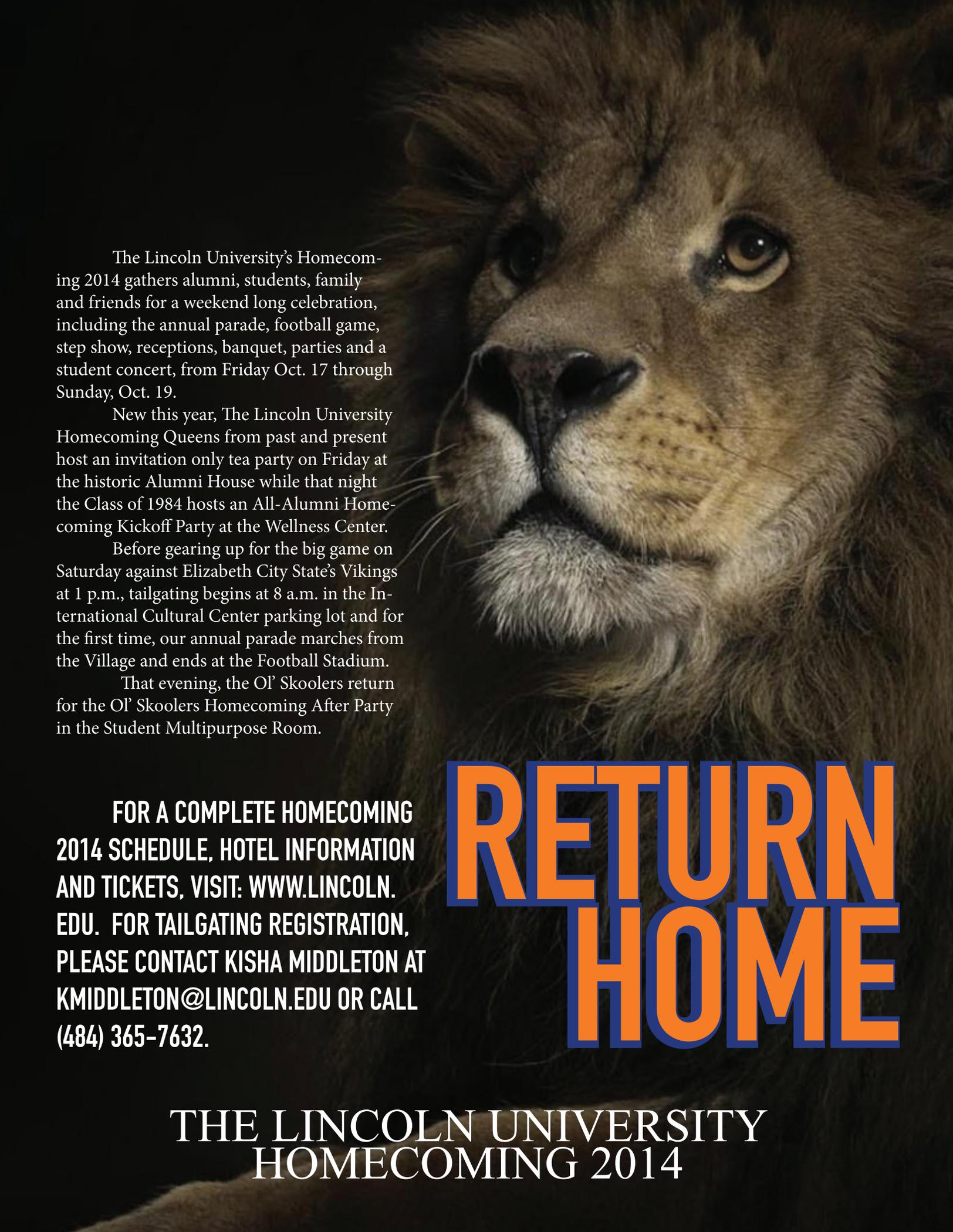
A main feature of the Chairlady’s Garden Party included its ‘Parade of Crowns,’ where the ladies’ hats were judged for creativity, glamour, outrageousness. Among the winners were: Miriam Stokes ’91, Jacqueline Beach Faulcon, Valerie L. McKinney-Richberg ’90, Marion B. Johnson, Dot Smallwood ’78, Karsonya Wise Whitehead ’91, Gloria Hartwell ’79, Jamie W. Johnson ’84, LaVora Valentine-Washington ’80 and Leslie A. Hardy ’86.

“Chairlady Lloyd hosted an event to remember,” said Stokes, one of the winners and the president of the Baltimore-Metro chapter of the Alumni Association of Lincoln University. “Alumni and friends enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship and fun for a great cause. I was honored to be in attendance and will definitely return.”

Judges included: Trustee Donald Notice ’79, Director of Communications & Public Relations Eric C. Webb ’91, Bruce Lee Sterile ’12, Stanley R. Smallwood, Esq. ’76 and Allen Edmonds.

‘Parade of Crown’ winners will be special guests of Lincoln’s President Dr. Robert R. Jennings and be recognized at the university’s first-ever nationally-televised home football game against its rival, the Cheyney University Wolves on Thursday, Sept. 4 at 7 p.m.

In addition, the Garden Party also featured tours of Lincoln’s Langston Hughes Memorial Library as well as the newly-opened Danjuma African Art Center, which included a special exhibit and sale of Zimbabwe Shona Stone Sculpture.



The Lincoln University's Homecoming 2014 gathers alumni, students, family and friends for a weekend long celebration, including the annual parade, football game, step show, receptions, banquet, parties and a student concert, from Friday Oct. 17 through Sunday, Oct. 19.

New this year, The Lincoln University Homecoming Queens from past and present host an invitation only tea party on Friday at the historic Alumni House while that night the Class of 1984 hosts an All-Alumni Homecoming Kickoff Party at the Wellness Center.

Before gearing up for the big game on Saturday against Elizabeth City State's Vikings at 1 p.m., tailgating begins at 8 a.m. in the International Cultural Center parking lot and for the first time, our annual parade marches from the Village and ends at the Football Stadium.

That evening, the Ol' Skoolers return for the Ol' Skoolers Homecoming After Party in the Student Multipurpose Room.

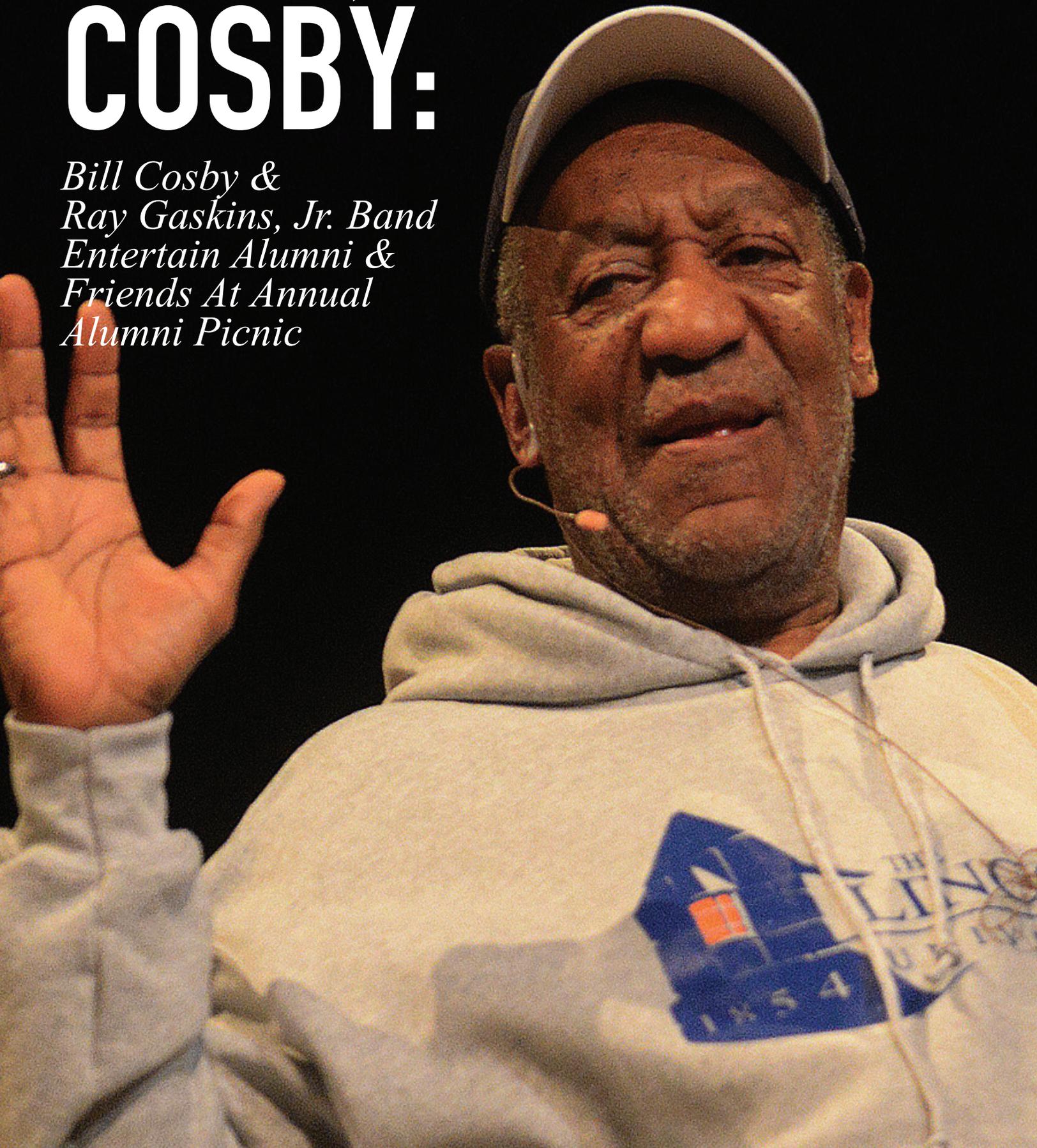
FOR A COMPLETE HOMECOMING 2014 SCHEDULE, HOTEL INFORMATION AND TICKETS, VISIT: WWW.LINCOLN.EDU. FOR TAILGATING REGISTRATION, PLEASE CONTACT KISHA MIDDLETON AT KMIDDLETON@LINCOLN.EDU OR CALL (484) 365-7632.

**RETURN
HOME**

**THE LINCOLN UNIVERSITY
HOMECOMING 2014**

FOOD, FUN & COSBY:

*Bill Cosby &
Ray Gaskins, Jr. Band
Entertain Alumni &
Friends At Annual
Alumni Picnic*



Hollywood legend, comedian, and philanthropist Dr. William “Bill” Cosby, Jr. and The Ray Gaskins, Jr. Band were among the featured attractions at this year’s Annual Alumni Picnic & Concert, which gathered more than 270 alumni on the university’s fitness trail and in its International Cultural Center on July 19.

The annual family-oriented alumni outing attracted alumni from Pennsylvania and surrounding states, including Maryland, the District of Columbia, New York, New Jersey and Delaware and featured a complimentary barbecue, cotton candy, popcorn and activities for the children followed by the concert with Cosby and the Ray Gaskins, Jr. Band.

Cosby’s appearance, part of The Students First Campaign’s effort to encourage \$10 million in support for need and merit-based scholarships, entertained audiences for more than an hour with humorous recollections, conversation and his satirical appeals for community self sufficiency. Currently, he serves as General Chair of the campaign.

In addition to the results of the Greek Challenge were also announced, a competition – where fraternities and sororities vie for bragging rights on total organization giving and total organization giving participation to the university.



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Beta Chapter – Fraternity With Highest Giving & Fraternity With Most Donors – \$86,458 from 50 Donors



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Epsilon Nu Chapter – Sorority With Highest Giving – \$33,602.63 from 41 Donors



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Zeta Omega Chapter – Sorority With Most Donors – \$19,350 from 49 Donors



Class of 1979 Gather For 35th Anniversary Reunion Photo At 2014 Alumni Picnic

CLASS NOTES

MAJ. GEN. ROOSEVELT ALLEN COMMANDS 1,550 U.S. AIR FORCE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

MAJOR GENERAL (DR.) ROOSEVELT ALLEN, JR. '82 recently became the new commander of the 79th Medical Wing (MDW) at Andrews Air Force Base, which consists of 1,550 Air Force health care professionals operating in eight locations.

The 79 MDW organizes, trains, equips and provides medical forces for Air and Space Expeditionary Force deployment, homeland defense operations and supports the joint operations worldwide. The wing also executes general dentistry residency and graduate medical education training programs, a nurse transition programs, and a multitude of enlisted medical training programs.

“I look forward to this great opportunity,” said Gen. Allen. “I am dedicated to ensuring that our medical forces sustain the excellent health care to which our beneficiaries are accustomed.”

The wing also serves as the air evacuation hub for the East Coast and is responsible for providing medical support to presidential, congressional, Joint and Air Staff special airlift missions.

“We like to say we are part of an integrated military medical center without walls,” he said. “You will find Air Force medics everywhere you go in the NCR. They have devoted their lives to their roles as medical professionals, and I am privileged to serve with them.”

In addition, Gen. Allen is the Command Surgeon for Headquarters Air Force District of Washington, Joint base Andrews and the Air Force Medical Component Commander, Defense Health Agency National Capital Region Medical Directorate, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, Md., providing the



single voice for planning and implementing Air Force Medical service activity in the National Capital Region.

Gen. Allen also serves as the Assistant Surgeon General for dental Services, office of the Surgeon General, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C., providing policy and operational advice to the Air Force Surgeon General on matters involving the dental practice of 1,000 dentists and 2,500 technicians.

Prior to his assignment, General Allen, a board-certified comprehensive dentist, served as Deputy Command Surgeon, Air Education and training Command, providing daily oversight to strategic planning, budgeting, programming, assignments, health plans management, clinical quality management, behavior medicine, deployment medicine, and medical policy for 14 medical units with over 10,000 personnel assigned to two medical centers, 11 medical treatment facilities and a training group.

Gen. Allen, who graduated with honors from Lincoln in 1982 and received both his Doctor of Dental Surgery from Howard University College of Dentistry as well as a direct commission in 1986, has been a clinician, educator, commander and advocate for the Air Force's Medical/Dental service at various assignments throughout his military career.

“In my (new) role as commander, I will ensure a ready medical force capable of delivering quality medical care to all of our beneficiaries,” said Gen. Allen.

He is a 1979 initiate of the Nu Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

10s

CHRISTOPHER HOWARD '14, who received his bachelor's degree from Lincoln in Physics this year, was recently selected to participate in a 16-week internship with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Howard will provide support for the 'Space Geodesy Project and HMAS Integration and Test2' at Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD from Aug. 25 through Dec. 12.

00s

ADDAE COX '08, who holds a bachelor's degree in History, was among 12 out of 200 New York City teachers awarded an Astor International Travel Fellowship through New York University's (NYU) School of Culture, Education and Human Development. The fellowship allowed him to travel to Shanghai, China from July 16 through July 26 to examine intercultural perspectives on teaching and learning. Through seminars, individualized studies and field trips to a variety of schools and cultural sites, Cox and others met local students and teachers and explored initiatives that city has taken on, including TESOL, bilingual education, foreign language education and international education.

ERIC JAMISON II '06 received the Outstanding Mentor Award from Baltimore's Lakeland Achievement Center's After-School Academy in May. Jamison holds bachelor's degrees in both Chemistry and Anthropology.

WILLIAM F. DUNBAR, SR. '05 was recently named Director of Undergraduate & University Affairs for Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Dunbar, who received his bachelor's degree in Political Science and Criminal Justice, was initiated in Kappa's Philadelphia Alumni Chapter in 2006. Since graduation, he has held various roles in student affairs, non-profit management and public policy.

90s

AMEN RA MASHARIKI '97, PH.D., Chief Technology Officer at the Office of Personnel Management was recently profiled in FedScoop's Up & Comers column on young federal employees excelling in federal IT.

In 2012-2013, Mashariki participated in the White House Fellows program. A graduate of the Brooklyn Technical High School, one of the top technical schools in the country, and a former software engineer at the once mobile phone giant Motorola, he received his bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Lincoln, his Master's degree in Computer Science from Howard University and his doctorate degree in Engineering from Morgan State University.

Since then, he has worked as Senior Computer Scientist at John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory and as Assistant Director of Informatics at University of Chicago Medical Center.

ROB KNOX '96 was profiled in The Philadelphia Tribune as a worthy candidate for The Lincoln University's Athletic Hall of Fame, which at the time



was seeking nominations. Knox is currently the Sports Information Director at Coppin State University in Baltimore, MD and a national sports writer for the WNBA and d3hoops.com. From 2004 to 2009, the 1996 Lincoln journalism graduate served as the Assistant Athletics Director for Sports Information at Lincoln. His efforts helped to put the Lions' sports programs on the map. Prior to Lincoln, he was a staff sports writer for the Delaware County Daily Times from 1999 to 2004. During that tenure, he covered several big time athletes including Kobe Bryant, Allen Iverson, Dawn Staley and Lisa Leslie. For two years, he has also served as a Stats Manager at ESPN, where he oversaw a newsroom and planned coverage.

DR. E. REGGIE SMITH, III '92 was inducted into The Federal Government Distance Learning Association Hall of Fame for his significant career accomplishments in promoting and developing distance learning in the Federal Government. Dr. Smith, who was both the first African American president and then chairman of the United States Distance Learning Association in 2009 and 2010 respectively, has been recognized for his distinguished service in supporting distance learning in the Federal Government for the past 19 years. His leadership in establishing video teleconferencing in the National Guard began as early as 1995, and ultimately



culminated in the deployment of a nation-wide, video teleconferencing system supporting the war fighting capabilities of the National Guard as well as active duty military forces. His strategic planning and interagency outreach initiatives in supporting the Advanced Distributed Learning organization and the Joint Knowledge Online's knowledge development and distribution capability successfully bridged the cultural differences across federal agencies. As a promoter and advocator of distance learning, his contributions in supporting the development and deployment of distance learning technologies has proved significant in providing the essential knowledge sets and critical skills in maintaining a highly effective and efficient Federal Government and military workforce. Dr. Smith works as the Senior Technical Advisor for JANUS Research Group, Inc.

M. BRANDON JONES '91, PH.D., Assistant Center Director – Ecosystems Research, was appointed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representative for the White House's Office of Science & Technology Policy's STEM strategic plan. Dr. Jones, who serves as a member of the Federal Coordination in STEM Education Task Force, co-chaired by African American astronaut Leland Melvin, is also Fellowship Programs Manager as part of the White House effort.



FRED THOMAS, JR. '91 held the East Coast debut of his NAACP Theatre Award-winning stage play, "12'x9", in which he wrote directed and co-starred. In the play, which received the 2012 NAACP Theatre Award for best director, playwright and producer, he reprises the role of Train, a vicious sociopath and habitual offender. Thomas has garnered acclaim for co-writing, directing and producing TV ONE's R&B Diva Los Angeles-featured stage play "What Would A Diva Do? Divalogues," directing the independent, straight-to-video film, "24-Hour Love" and helping to produce "Men in Black 3."

ERIC CHRISTOPHER WEBB '91 was recently highlighted in the Centennial edition of *The Sphinx*, the official magazine of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., for his novel, *The Garvey Protocol: Inspired By True Events*' recognition as among the best in African American First Fiction at the 2013 QBR / Phyllis Wheatley Book Awards at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York. The National Black Authors Tour bestselling author and former Washington News Correspondent for Thomson Newspapers has written five books and is currently Lincoln's Director of Communications & Public Relations.



DR. KARSONYA WISE-WHITEHEAD '91 recently was awarded the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC)'s 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award at its national convention in Fort Lauderdale, FL. That convention was the convention-denominational home and platform for the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who addressed every annual session of the Convention until his death in 1968. Previous recipients of the award have included Dr. King, Rev. Chuck Swindoll, Rev. Jesse Jackson and both President Bill and Hillary Clinton.



80s

TRUSTEE JOHN C. JOHNSTON, III '89 was elected President of the Rho Tau Lambda Foundation, Inc., which is the educational non-profit administered by the Rho Tau Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. in Baltimore, MD. The organization raises funds and offers scholarships to deserving students.



70s

JANET BROWN-CLAYTON '79 was recently profiled in the *New Haven Independent* as the new principal at the Lincoln-Bassett School, a turnaround school, where the principal is newly-empowered to make broad teacher replacements, reconstitute the team in her own vision and expand school hours to help families who work late and can't pick up their kids.

VIOLET O. MENSAH '73, MPA, MBA, recently retired from the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Services as a teacher IV (highest paid position category) with more than 33 years of combined county and state service. While employed, Ms. Mensah earned two graduate degrees, raised a family and was initiated into Iota Pi Zeta chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. She has received recognition from the NYS English Council as an "Educator of Excellence" Team Excellence Award and distinction from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. with the Zeta Spirit Award, Atlantic Region's National Education Foundation Award and the Atlantic Region DOARS (Documenting Our Atlantic Region Success).

60s

DAVID WHITE '64 was among three outstanding graduates of Oxford Area High School honored at its eighth Distinguished Alumni Recognition Ceremony in June. White, who taught in the Baltimore City Schools, where he coached lacrosse, football and various other sports, earned Coach of the Year after leading his football team to the state championship title.

WE WANT TO KNOW

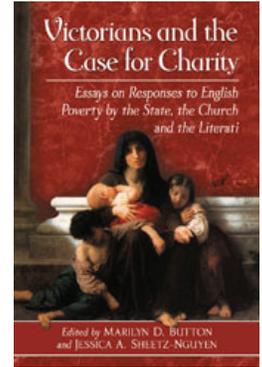
*Send your
accomplishments,
milestones
and publications to:
lucomm@lincoln.edu*

VICTORIANS AND THE CASE FOR CHARITY

Essays on Responses to English Poverty by the State, the Church and the Literati

LITERARY LINCOLN

Edited by Marilyn D. Button
and Jessica A. Sheetz-Nguyen
McFarland
280 pages;
\$45.00 paperback;
ISBN: 978-0-7864-7032-7
Ebook ISBN: 978-1-4766-0586-9
www.mcfarlandbooks.com

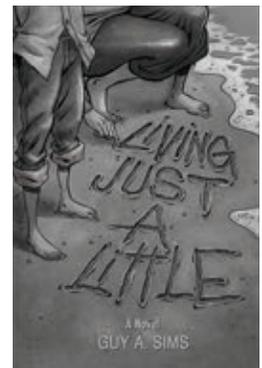


This collection of all new essays by The Lincoln University Professor of English Marilyn D. Button and Jessica A. Sheetz-Nguyen, Associate Professor of History at the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, seeks to answer a series of questions surrounding the Victorian response to poverty in Britain. In short, what did various layers of society say the poor deserved and what did they do to help them? The work is organized against the backdrop of the 1834 New Poor Laws, recognizing that poverty garnered considerable attention in England because of its pervasive and painful presence. Each essay examines a different initiative to help the poor.

Taking an historical tack, the essayists begin with the royal perspective and move into the responses of Church of England members, Evangelicals, and Roman Catholics; the social engagement of the literati is discussed as well. This collection reflects the real, monetary, spiritual and emotional investments of individuals, public institutions, private charities, and religious groups who struggled to address the needs of the poor.

LIVING JUST A LITTLE

By Guy A. Sims '83
BCE Pressworks;
\$18.00 paperback plus shipping;
ISBN 13: 978-0-615-69541-9
<http://bcepressworks.wix.com/bcepress>

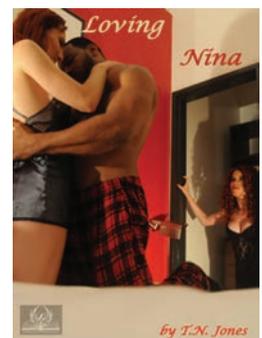


Author Guy A. Sims, a native of Philadelphia, taps into his love for the city and uses it as the backdrop for his contemporary romance, *Living Just A Little*. The novel follows the lives of four Philadelphians as they make meaning of life and search for love in the four corners of the city. “*Living Just A Little*” has been called a love letter to the City of Brotherly Love.

Sims takes his readers on a journey of revealing secrets, hidden desires, and a freedom of the spirit as 9/11 looms on the horizon. The sights, sounds, tastes, and smells of Philadelphia emit from the pages as the characters find their own way to live ... just a little.

LOVING NINA

By Tomara Jones '07*
Phoenix Jones Publishing, LLC
282 pages;
\$11.99 paperback; \$6.99 eBook;
ISBN: 0991105532
www.phoenixjonespublishingllc.com



People are dead, Blake is distraught, and Nina is on the run!

Anabelle Strayer is normally very good at her job as a US Marshal, but what happens when she meets someone she just can't get off her mind? Her loyalty and duties as an officer are called into question as she falls under the enigmatic charms of a beautiful woman while trying to keep a steady relationship with her kind of boyfriend, who has some secrets of his own. Will his revelation help Ana get a grip on reality before anyone else loses their life?

Nina's search and sacrifices for love have forced her to take fate into her own hands as she flees for her life. She narrowly escapes capture from a ruthless gangster who's fixated on making her a prostitute. Taking risks to secure her freedom from sexual servitude provides an alluring opportunity for Nina to tamper with the investigation dedicated to bringing her in. Follow Nina as she twists and turns Ana's world upside down while Ana fights to keep herself from falling apart. See how it all unfolds in ... *Loving Nina*.

**Attended, but did not graduate from university.*

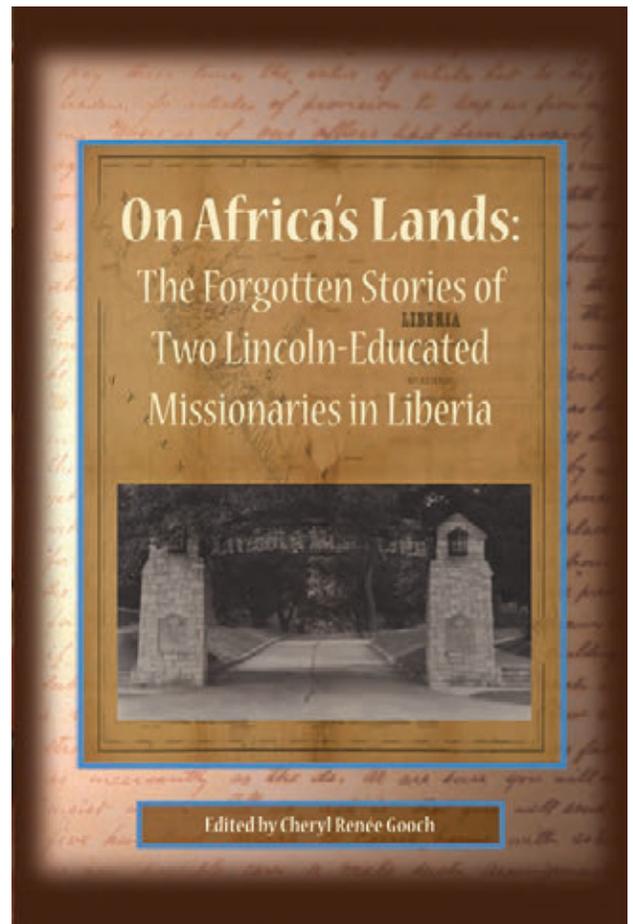
UPON A PRAYER

In On Africa's Lands: The Forgotten Stories of Two Lincoln Educated Missionaries in Liberia, Dr. Cheryl Renee Gooch, Lincoln's Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, chronicles the lives and missionary experiences of James and his brother Thomas Amos, the first graduates of the nation's first-degree granting Historically Black College & University, The Lincoln University. Captured in more than 70 letters they and colleagues wrote from the mission field between 1859 and 1869, the book evokes the voices and experiences of men at the center of the colonization movement and offers a different perspective from the often celebratory stories published about Liberia and the social movement that encouraged freed slaves to emigrate there.

Prayer is a part of the physical foundation of The Lincoln University, formerly named Ashmun Institute. Buried beneath the grass behind Lincoln Hall, the oldest building on campus, there is a stone that served as the altar on which James Ralston Amos prayed the institution into existence. Ashmun Hall was the Institute's first building, both named to honor Reverend Jehudi Ashmun who helped to settle Liberia, the American sponsored

colony to which James and his brother Thomas were sent to serve as missionaries during the height of the 19th century colonization movement. The American Colonization Society established Liberia in 1820. Its members supported sending free Blacks and emancipated slaves there rather than advocate for granting them full rights as American citizens. Presbyterian minister John Miller Dickey was one such man. He believed that an

institution should be established to educate Black men to teach and Christianize native Africans. James Ralston Amos gave impetus to this global mission. Dickey's 1853 sermon, Ethiopia Shall Soon Stretch Out Her Hands Unto God, proclaimed that "the colored people of this country seem to have been sent here by Divine Providence that they might be Christianized and employed as laborers for the evangelization of Africa."



Excerpt from

ON AFRICA'S LANDS:

The Forgotten Stories of Two Lincoln Educated Missionaries in Liberia

By Cheryl Renee Gooch

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Nonfiction/History

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Soon Ashmun Institute was chartered and began enrolling male students who would be educated to deliver the gospel to their commonly described “benighted brethren” in Liberia. James and his brother Thomas Henry Amos were among the first to graduate and emigrate to Liberia to serve as Presbyterian missionaries. Between 1859 and 1869 the Amoses wrote nearly 70 letters from the mission field capturing their voices which have been unheard, until now. Within these letters, James and Thomas describe their day-to-day experiences while revealing the challenges of working with native Liberians as well as the policies of United States based Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions that both supported and hindered their mission work.

Before they became missionaries James and Thomas were farmers in Hinsonville, a community near Oxford, Pennsylvania, which free Blacks settled in the 1830s. Hosanna church was the community’s spiritual center whose members worked with Quaker neighbors to help escaped slaves seeking freedom. Hosanna was a station of the Underground Railroad and the Amoses were active members of both. It was within this stable community of farmers, laborers and abolitionists that Dickey chose to establish Ashmun Institute. Dickey enlisted the help of the Amoses, Hosanna members, and Hinsonville residents who provided money, labor and prayers to support the building of the Institute later renamed Lincoln University to honor Abraham Lincoln, the Emancipator President.

James was an itinerant Methodist minister when he sought the help of Dickey who then pastored the Presbyterian Church in Oxford to gain acceptance to a seminary where he could continue his formal education. He was also a praying man. Unable to secure acceptance for James to seminaries that denied him because of his race, Dickey began teaching James who walked four miles to and from Oxford at least three days a week. At the beginning of his walk James would stop in a grove to read the Bible and pray by a stone that served as his altar. Horace Mann Bond captured the nearly forgotten story of the unique place of Amos’s prayer stone in Lincoln’s history. He wrote:

“At the beginning of his walk he would stop in a grove, a hundred yards from his house, later the site of Ashmun Hall, to spend a period in his daily devotions of Bible reading and prayer. He knelt at a certain stone that provided a convenient altar. Four years later, when Ashmun Hall was being built on the same site, he noted that the stone of his prayers had been placed

in the foundation of the edifice.” Lincoln Hall was built in front of and attached to Ashmun Hall until 1955 when Ashmun was demolished.

The heritage of Hosanna and Lincoln is intertwined. James and Thomas were Hosanna trustees and helped raise funds to establish Ashmun Institute. While James’s prayer stone became a part of the foundation of Ashmun Hall, fellow Hosanna trustee Samuel Glasgow made and delivered the bricks for the building that stood behind Lincoln Hall until 1955. During the time that Dickey worked to secure the charter for Ashmun, Hosanna provided a forum for discussions of issues of concern and interest to African Americans, including the abolition of slavery and emigration.

Abolitionist and staunch emigration opponent Giles Badger Stebbins attended meetings at Hosanna where these timely discussions were held. He reported: “The Hosanna meetings were in a meeting house built by colored people, who formed a considerable part of the audience; we had a discussion of Colonization and other matters which awakened some interest.” On the eve of Dickey exhorting the divine plan to Christianize Africa, Stebbins’s 1853 critique of the American colonization movement was deafening. The true objective, he asserted, was “expulsion of the Whole Free Colored population from the country.”

Despite the often strong opposition to emigration, the Amos brothers and other African Americans consider it a desirable alternative to facing continuous discrimination and the threat of being kidnapped and sold into slavery. The opportunity to acquire an advanced education and the appeal of helping to build an independent country governed by Black men inevitably convince James and Thomas of their missionary calling. On May 12, 1859, James, his wife Isabella and adopted son Ellwood Burton, and Thomas, his wife Susanna and their children, Emma, James and Georgianna, along with brick maker Samuel Glasgow, his wife Elizabeth and eight family members depart for Liberia. Fellow Ashmun graduate Armistead Miller and his wife sail the same day.

The Pennsylvania Colonization Society paid \$420 toward the passage costs per family for James, Thomas, Armistead and Samuel and their spouses, children and relatives to sail to Liberia with the stipulation that the exact matching amount be obtained from the state treasury. The Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions shared the passage costs for its missionaries by covering baggage and custom fees.

Thursday morning, May 12, 1859. Baltimore

harbor. James, Thomas and Armistead stand among 150 emigrants gathered on deck of the *Mary Caroline Stevens*, a newly built brig soon to embark on her fourth voyage to Liberia. Emigrants often celebrate their departures with sermons, prayers and songs like *From Greenland's Icy Mountains* that express Christians' interpretations of the biblical teaching to spread the gospel to "all nations" of the world. Originally published in 1825, this missionary song is popular during the height of the mid-19th century emigration movement. Sophia Glasgow, Samuel's daughter or niece, begins the song in which the Amoses and fellow emigrants join as they prepare to sail:

*From Greenland's icy mountains,
From India's coral strand;
Where Africa's sunny fountains
Roll down their golden sand:
From many an ancient river,
From many a palmy plain,
They call us to deliver Their land
from error's chain.*

*What though the spicy breezes
Blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle;
Though every prospect pleases,
And only man is vile?
In vain with lavish kindness
The gifts of God are strown;
The heathen in his blindness
Bows down to wood and stone.*

*Shall we, whose souls are lighted
With wisdom from on high,
Shall we to men benighted
The lamp of life deny?
Salvation! O salvation!*

Words and phrases like "benighted," "vile," "heathen in

his blindness," and "error's chain," reveal the conflicting views missionaries often hold of the Africans for whom they profess a moral duty to uplift and serve. These words and phrases foreshadow the Amoses' attitudes toward native people they encounter and with whom they clash.



Facing fellow emigrants and well-wishers who have come to witness their notable embarking, the recently ordained Thomas seems reconciled to the contradictory mission conceived by his sponsor, the Pennsylvania Colonization Society. A free man of African descent who does not enjoy full rights as a citizen of the United States is being sent to Liberia to Christianize natives who are deemed to be in need of moral and cultural uplift. He says he is not from Africa, has not seen it, but is cheerfully going there to labor for God by spreading the gospel to people of his own race. James follows telling the assembly

he is called to be a missionary to his people. He and Thomas face a complex mission. Educated men, their prospects for meaningful life work in the United States are limited. Their country is heading toward a civil war over slavery, a human injustice which as abolitionists they have sought to undermine.

For now they are called to a remote Liberian mission station where they will devote themselves to spiritually enlightening their African brethren while navigating mutually intolerant cultural differences. However they fare, whatever awaits them in the mission field, they are humanitarian pioneers. Their alma mater will loom prominently in the historical memory of Liberians and generations of African students who seek advanced education at the institution founded upon prayer. 🙏



Greg Corbin '94

TWO LINCOLN ALUMS RECOGNIZED AT 2014 PHILADELPHIA BLACK POETRY HONORS

Two Lincoln alums Greg “JustGreg” Corbin '94 and Eric Christopher Webb '91 were among those recognized for lifetime achievement and contributions to the Philadelphia poetry scene and beyond at the University of Pennsylvania's Rotunda Theatre in May.

The event, sponsored by the National Black Authors Tour and Poetic Ventures, also honored Dr. Kimmika Williams, Lamont Step-toe, Lois Moses, Stephanie Renee, Black Ice, Al Mills and Nnamdi Chukwuocha (The Twin Poets), K.D. Morris, Dr. Maurice Henderson, Supreme Dow, Dwayne Reid, Djuan Williams, Wadud Ahmed, Christal Brinson, Anwar El, Pat McLean, Nish Pugh, Debra Powell, Bill Holmes, Thelma Shelton Robinson, Bobby Collier, Ron Carter, Kyree 'Superstar' Mitchell, Lamont 'Napalm' Dixon, Ronnie Way, posthumously Selvin Gordon and others.

Corbin, a spoken word

artist and activist, who has been featured on *CNN*, *HBO* and *ESSENCE*, has shared the stage with India Arie, Mos Def, Talib Kweli, Nikki Giovanini, Musiq Soul Williams, Kindred the Family Soul and performed across the U.S. and internationally in South Africa, England and Canada.

In 2006, he also founded the Philadelphia Youth Poetry Movement – a nonprofit organization created to give young people their voice in an effort to promote social change, cultural and ethnic diversity and positive self-esteem. His group has performed not only in Philadelphia, but Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, DC, San Jose, San Francisco and in New York City as a part of the “Brave New Voices” International Poetry Competition. They won in 2007 and in 2011.

Corbin, whose image is among those featured on the Alumni Arch mural, was one of 20

winners of the 2012 BME (Black Male Engagement) Leadership Award, created to honor Black men who step up to lead within their communities. Currently, he is a teacher at the Folk Arts & Cultural Treasures Charter School.

Webb, a spoken word artist, educator, novelist and social entrepreneur, has performed nationally and internationally, having been featured in movies, videos, commercials and literary documentaries on *HBO*, *BET Weekend's Evening of Spoken Word*, *BET Rap City*, *Video Jukebox*, *The Party Machine*, *The Learning Channel*, *Voice of America* and *XM Radio*.

In addition, he was also featured on The Keys of Knowledge debut album, *Flowetry* and released his own Spoken Soul CD single, *Wet Skin*.

Webb has shared the stage with the legendary poets Sonia Sanchez, Sekou Sundiata, the Last Poets, Dennis Brutus, Reggie

Gibson of *Love Jones* fame, Spur Of The Moment, reggae artists, Black Sheep and Jamaica's Ninja Force, Jazz legend Jeane Carne as well as Grammy Award-winning Jeffrey Osborne when he performed and premiered 'A Lincoln Poem' at Lincoln University's Sesquicentennial Celebration at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Women In the Arts.

Called "a gifted and visionary wordsmith" by then-*ESSENCE* magazine poetry editor Angela Kinamore and praised by The

Washington Post for his "poetry (that) shakes up the status quo," he is the author of five books, including *Coming of Age: The Waking of Sleeping Giants*, *The Recipe For Revolution*, the National Black Authors Tour bestseller, *Love Letters*, *Death Threats & Suicide Notes: new and selected poems and essays (1991-1998)*, *P: Writings of Love, Passion & Eroticism, Vol. 1.* and his debut novel, *The Garvey Protocol: Inspired By True Events*, which was a finalist for the Phyllis Wheatley Book Award for African American First

Fiction.

In addition, Webb is the founder of the Khepera Center for Expression and Social Change, a paradigm-shifting for-profit institution whose mission is to establish a community of creative problem-solvers and social change agents that capitalizes on the transformative and healing powers of expression and the Arts. 🐾

KASH GOINS '94: MAN OF MANY ACTS



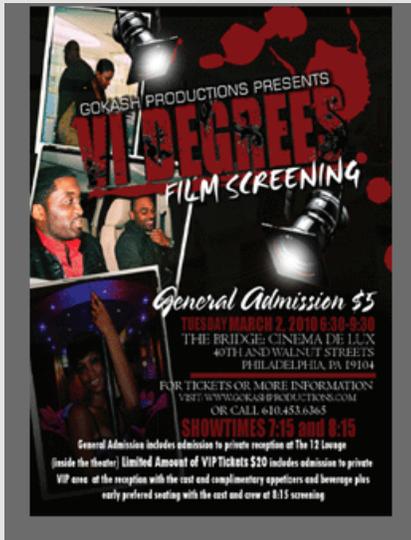
If you are looking for a Black gospel-style stage play, Kash Goins '94 won't be acting in or producing it. The South Philadelphia native is on a mission with his independent African American theatre company to produce primarily large-scale classical theatre for an African American audience in a unique way. And this is not to say that he won't do the plays of August Wilson, Ntozake Shange or Lorraine Hansberry either. He has, and will.

"This is indeed art, and with art, there is a responsibility," said Goins. "You have this platform so how do you choose to use it . . . Even though it's not a Black play, we plug in the Black mindset and the Black experience. We have to own these words and own these experiences."

Goins, 41, who heads GoKash Productions, is currently producing and starring in Arthur Miller's classic "Death of A Salesman" directed by theatre veteran Ozzie Jones at Philadelphia's Plays and Players Theater, 1714 Delancey Street, now through Aug. 17. "Death of A Salesman," considered a caustic attack on the "American Dream" of materialism, is the story of an aging traveling salesman who has outlived his usefulness. In it, he tackles the lead role as the fated Willy Loman.

"The words don't change, but my director has added certain Afrocentric accents to the play," Goins said. "There's a speech by Marcus Garvey that plays again and again in his (Willy's) mind . . . (And in our version) Willy Loman does not die, but instead the death of the (N-word) mentality and trying to translate that to success in America. He's (Jones) directed this in a way that instead of watching Willie's unraveling, they (the audience) are experiencing it."

Last summer, Goins pulled double duty producing two plays, which ran almost simultaneously at the same theatre: '50s drama "Twelve Angry Men," which



featured both a nearly all-Black, male and female cast along with Jones directing and August Wilson's Pulitzer-prize winning play, "Fences," which he also starred. He also produced a one-time performance of Suzan-Lori Parks' Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, "Topdog/Underdog" for Lincoln's homecoming last year.

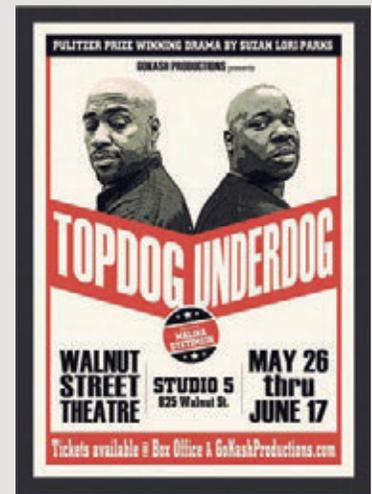
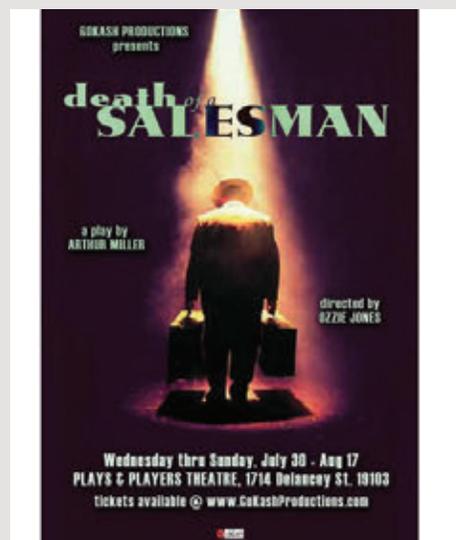
Interestingly enough, Goins first began acting at Lincoln in 1992 prior to receiving his bachelor's degree in Business Administration there two years later. After graduation, he continued to hone his acting and theatre skills, but

pursued a career in pharmaceutical sales.

And by 2009, he had already had a few significant acting roles, including the lead in an Iron Age theatre production of "The Life of John Henry" in Norristown and had grown unhappy with the corporate grind. So, he decided to quit his job to pursue theatre full time.

That year, his first play, "VI Degrees," which later became a film short in 2010, won best play in New York City's Downtown Urban Theater Festival. A year later, he started The Philadelphia's Urban Theatre Festival, which showcased 14 theatrical productions for three weeks dealing with the African American experience. The festival boasted even more shows the next year, taking a hiatus in 2013.

He would later return to the



corporate and theatrical balancing act a few years later.

"That was an agreement between my wife (Tiffany) and I," he said. "The decision wasn't based on money, but on passion. I realized I can't be a full time actor. I'd have to move to New York City and live a life of feast-or-famine. That doesn't interest me. As a producer in order to be successful like a Tyler Perry, you have to be on the road all the time and leave your family. I consciously decided to be a husband, a father, to have three sons, buy a house in the suburbs (of Wilmington, DE). For those reasons, it didn't make sense. I've been blessed to have a job where I can make six figures. All I need is my evenings and my weekends, (so) why not do that?" 🐾

LINCOLN IN THE LENS

@TRAVQUE INVADES SOCIAL MEDIA WITH A VENGEANCE

If you love social media sites, like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or Vine or websites like WorldStarHipHop.com, you've likely seen one of Travis "TravQue" Thompson's viral comedy videos.

As hard to look away as a car wreck, his viral videos often feature his own brand of wacky and irreverent humor. Often dressed in The Lincoln University or Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. paraphernalia, TravQue casually invades public spaces from street corners, fast food restaurants and their drive-thrus, clothing stores, athletic events and anywhere else people are gathered and without warning, breaks into random yelling, movie imitations or singing.

"I want to be an actor and I realized that social media was a way to get you noticed, but the thing is everybody is doing it," he said. "So, I scream in my videos not to be ignorant, but to be different. A lot of people called me ignorant, a lot of racist things were said, but it didn't bother me. People are going to say things about you anyway. They never knew what my goal was."

And it's worked, one video, where he walks calmly into a crowded McDonald's, turns to the camera and let's out what has become his signature tribal scream launched him into viral, social media stardom last November. He reportedly received more than a million hits or views collectively through Vine, Twitter, Youtube and the infamous WorldStarHipHop website – considered to be the crowning accomplishment for urban viral videos.



Even the NBA's Brandon Jennings of the Detroit Pistons and Hip Hop Artist Meek Mills recreated his infamous video.

"It started out on Vine and went all over the world," Thompson said. "Brandon Jennings follows me so he tagged me on his video."

Since then, four of Thompson's other videos have been featured on the WorldStarHipHop.com site.

And when his videos aren't featuring his one-man flash mobs, his comedy skits are poking fun at common situations like the annoying date or the annoying guy that yells from a far, demonstrating his rap skills in his self-styled Hip Hop videos, offering inspirational words of wisdom on subjects ranging from "know(ing) who your friends are" to "treat(ing) negativity like positivity" or interviewing Hip Hop artists or an occasional Reality TV show star, including Juicy J., Dope Boy Troy and Tara from *Love & Hip Hop*.

As a child, the Brooklyn, New York native would borrow his father's camera and make videos acting, rapping or performing a comedy skit to get the family's attention. At 10, he received his own camera and within a year, he had started editing.

Ironically, at Lincoln, Thompson received a degree in Health Science not Mass Communications due to his strict West Indian parents' wishes and planned to follow in the footsteps of his father, a registered nurse.

"I always did something with the camera when I was at Lincoln and everyone thought I was in Mass Comm," he said, "but I was respecting what my parents wanted me to do."

Thompson had worked as a therapist aide before an injury sidelined him for the last few months,

but it was after a semester for graduate school at West Chester University, he decided that he wanted to pursue acting. Since then, he's taking some improvisational acting classes and auditioned for an independent film project.

He admits, however, he's not yet ready to quit the day job. Thompson begins a new gig as Substitute Paraprofessional working with special needs children in the New York City Schools in September, but he's also locked down work shooting behind the scenes footage for emerging Hip Hop emcee Troy Ave, whose collaborations have included the likes of Pusha T, Tony Yayo, Lloyd Banks, Mac Miller, 2 Chainz, Prodigy, Noreaga and others.

Thompson's company and website, CatchLifeInMotion.com, offers a glimpse into his pursuits in acting and the media arts. 🐾

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Dr. Reuben J. Washington '69
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William W. Hegamin, Jr. '70
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Deborah E. Jones-Ford '70
Dr. Eddie A. Knowles '70
The Honorable Gordon J. Linton '70
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 Lisa M. Revers '93
 Tina C. Yuille '93

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 Nema Mayazi Manuel '94
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 Melanie Roberts '94
 Travella Sellers '94
 Virginia O. Tomlinson '94
 Lorenzo M. Wooten, Jr. '94

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 Deverene Ashe-Watkins '95
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 Sarah L. Wright '85
 Adrienne H. Wynne-Carter '88
 Naima Jackson Young '95
 Takeyah Young '99



The Lincoln University
Office of Communications & Public Relations
1570 Baltimore Pike
P.O. Box 179
Lincoln University, PA 19352-0999
(484) 365-7427
www.lincoln.edu

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WHERE BEING THE FIRST MATTERS



(Photos From Lincoln University Herald June-August, 1921/Courtesy of the Langston Hughes Memorial Library, The Lincoln University/Doris Hughes (Left) President Harding, accompanied by his wife and Lincoln President Dr. John B. Rendall, speaking at The Lincoln University. (Right) Scene at Dedication of Alumni Memorial Arch a day later.

Over the years, three U.S. Presidents have visited The Lincoln University: William H. Taft, on June 18, 1910 delivered the Commencement Address; Warren G. Harding, on June 6, 1921 a day prior to commencement exercises and the dedication of the Alumni Arch, a memorial to Lincoln men who served in World War I, and the front gateway to the campus; and Gerald Ford toured the campus in 1978.

During President Harding's visit on his way from Valley Forge to Washington, he addressed the graduating class, commended the work of the university, and contrasted the scene before him with the large-scale, Tulsa Race Riots only days earlier.

"The colored race, in order to come into its own, must do the great work itself, in preparing for that participation (in citizenship)," said President Harding. "Nothing will accomplish so much as educational preparation. I commend the valuable work which this institution is doing in that direction. It is a fine contrast to the unhappy and distressing spectacle that we saw the other day out in one of the Western States. God grant that in the soberness, the fairness and the justice of the country, we shall never again have a spectacle like that."

The events of the riot, which were long distorted and omitted from local and state histories where whites attacked the Black community, resulted in the Greenwood District, also known as 'the Black Wall Street'— the wealthiest Black community in the United States, being burned to the ground.

A day later, the Hon. Walter G. Alexander, M.D., an 1899 graduate, offered the Alumni Arch dedication address. ". . . It is not for us to dedicate; it is not for us to consecrate; the service and sacrifice of the men, whom we honor today have consecrated this pile far above our power to add or detract; the world will little know nor remember what we say here today, but it is rather for us—to dedicate our lives to service and sacrifice for the great unfinished work that remains among our own people—that we renew our devotion to this great Cause—that the example of the service and sacrifice of these men may not have been in vain . . . "