

# LION

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY OF PA

ALUMNUS FIRST  
AFRICAN AMERICAN  
TO LEAD METRO  
NASHVILLE SCHOOLS



A MAGAZINE WHERE BEING **THE FIRST** MATTERS | FALL/WINTER 2016

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Change and challenges within any organization can bring about tremendous opportunities. The same can be said within academia. At Lincoln, we strive to offer the best collegiate experience while balancing the demands of state, federal, and governing agencies. That delicate balance was put to the test this past academic year.

When the University called upon its alumni, faculty, and staff to write letters in support of Lincoln University's state appropriations, the response was unprecedented. Our collective voice, along with support from the Board of Trustees, persuaded the state legislature to end the budget impasse. During this same time, we challenged faculty to look for new, innovative ways to engage our students. The result was a record-number of grants submitted in the sciences and humanities that will prepare our students to become the next generation of leaders emerging from this great institution.

Alumni, faculty, and students worked on initiatives that brought forth much pride for the University. Of the many that come to mind are those in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Working alongside their professors, students in mass communications participated in "Mass Comm Day." Juniors and seniors successfully invited and engaged alumni and other African Americans working in the broadcast and radio industry to speak to students about their profession. The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives organized its first student chapter at Lincoln with 21 criminal justice majors. Philadelphia Police Captain Jacqueline Bailey-Davis, M.Ed. '00, donated \$50,000 for an endowed scholarship and created a mentorship program also for criminal justice majors.

Our alumni, faculty, and staff are to be applauded for the work they have and continue to do to guide, shape, and educate our students. I am grateful for the number of those that give of their time and talents for this great institution. I am proud to be part of Lincoln during this pivotal time and look forward to another outstanding academic year.

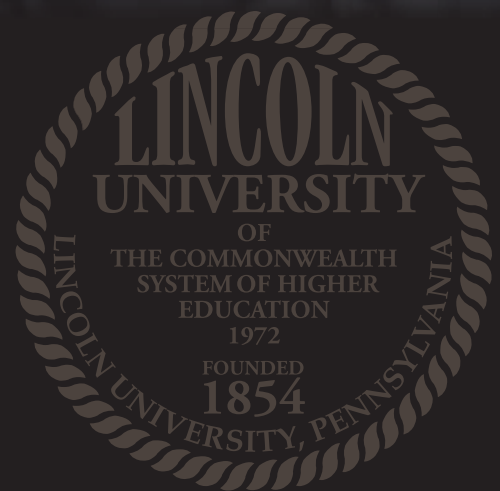
Thank you for your generous contributions and support.



Richard Green, Ph.D.  
Interim President



Photo by Shelley Mix



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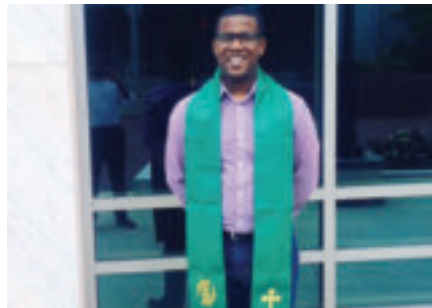
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# LION

A MAGAZINE WHERE BEING **THE FIRST** MATTERS | FALL/WINTER 2016



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# LEGACY REINFORCED

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## FROM THE EDITOR



Photo by Shelley Mix

When people hear the term 'legacy,' they typically think of past glories and a demonstrated record of excellence from a bygone era. Too often, 'legacy' is also used by some as an excuse to rest on their laurels and as a distraction from present failures.

Not so for Lincoln University.

'Legacy' for Lincoln University alludes to our expectation of present and future achievements. It is not a relic of or reference to our past, but commitment to what we will, and currently offer to the world.

That's why Lincoln's oral and written tradition is so important, and why we attempt to resurrect the spirit of the Rabble here to acknowledge and reinforce our legacy and our place in history.

In this issue of LION, we celebrate and highlight two new 'FIRSTS' for the university and its alumni. Shawn Joseph '96 becomes the first African American to lead the Metro Nashville Schools; and Blanche Carney '92 becomes Philadelphia's first female prisons commissioner. We also recognize the recent accomplishments of our alumni in law enforcement, literature, religion, social services, health and fitness, entertainment as well as a host of other fields.

Lastly, we discover the secret behind the lintel stone in the Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel and the tragic story of the young girl the chapel honors.

For now, these words here are the conduits of those legacies.

Hail, Hail Lincoln!

Eric Christopher Webb '91  
Editor

# LION

FALL/WINTER 2016

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# TUFTS UNIVERSITY RESIDENCE HALL NAMED FOR FORMER LINCOLN UNIVERSITY LEADER

A Tufts University residence hall was recently renamed after a former acting president and provost of Lincoln University, Bernard Harleston. The former South Hall was rededicated in May in honor of Harleston, who is a Tufts trustee emeritus and the first African American tenure-track professor at that university.

Harleston, who initially joined Tufts in 1956 as an assistant professor of psychology, left Tufts briefly in 1968 after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. to serve as Lincoln's provost because he wanted to make more of a commitment to the African American community. Following the departure of Lincoln University President Marvin Wachman, he would also serve briefly as the university's acting president.

In 1970, he returned to Tufts as its dean of faculty of Arts and Sciences.

During that time, he is credited with increasing institutional access for African Americans, including an expanded curriculum and new faculty outreach for African American candidates. Prior to that, he chaired Tuft's Committee on Negro Education in the mid-1960s, which resulted in the university hosting and developing a pre-college program for minority and low-income students as a forerunner to Upward Bound.

He served as dean for 10 years and in 1981 he became the president of the City College of New York. [L](#)

# ROAR



*Then-Acting President Bernard Harleston in Lincoln's 1970 yearbook.*



## UNIVERSITY CITY HOSTS THE FOURTH BIENNIAL KWAME NKRUMAH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Lincoln University - University City hosted the Fourth Biennial Kwame Nkrumah International Conference (KNIC4) "Reinvigorating the Pan-African Intelligentsia: Developing organizations and institutions committed to serving African People" from Friday, September 16 through Monday, September 19.

The conference, named for Ghana's first president and 1939 Lincoln graduate, includes a free Pan-African film festival, plenary sessions, musical performances, networking mixers, and a tour excursion to Lincoln University's main campus. Nkrumah also received an honorary degree from Lincoln in 1951.

"The theme of this year's conference described what the organizing committee of the conference wanted to have an influence on," said D. Zizwe Poe, chairman of KNIC4 organizing committee and a conference presenter. "The general goal of all iterations of the KNIC4 was the global well-being of African descendants. The KNIC4 organizing committee decided that the fourth Kwame Nkrumah International Conference could best support achieving the general goal by providing organizational self-assessments and recommended initiatives of intellectuals and activists concerned with Pan-Africanism."

Featured presenters included **Toyin Falola**, author and Jacob and Frances Sanger Mossiker Chair in the Humanities and University Distinguished Teaching Professor, University of Texas at Austin and Kluge Chair of the Countries and Culture of the South, Library of Congress; **Molefi Kete Asante**, author and chair and professor, Department of African American Studies, Temple University; **Ama Biney**, educator and author, "The Political and Social Thought of Kwame Ture;" **Ama Mazama**, associate professor and director of the Graduate Programs of the Department of African American Studies, Temple University and managing editor of the "Journal of Black Studies;" **Kofi Lomotey**, scholar, educator, and editor of the "SAGE Encyclopedia of African American Education" as well as the secretary-treasurer of the Council of Independent Black Institutions; and **D. Zizwe Poe**, a social scientist, historian and professor, History, Political Science, Philosophy and Religion, Lincoln University.

The conference was organized jointly with Lincoln University – University City, which is located at Lincoln Plaza, 3020 Market Street in Philadelphia; Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana; Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Surrey, British Columbia, Canada; and Molefi Kefe Asante Institute in Philadelphia. [L](#)





THIRD ANNUAL  
*Chairlady's*  
GARDEN PARTY  
SHOWCASES  
ELEGANCE AND CLASS





The third annual Chairlady’s Garden Party hosted on the picturesque lawn of Lincoln University’s historic Alumni House on June 18 showcased the epitome of elegance and class with its traditional Parade of Hats and Best Dressed Gentlemen contests.

Alumni Jason R. Hunt ’00 and trustees Donald C. Notice ’79 and Guy A. Sims ’83 judged both contests, which included 43 women and seven men.

Ten winners of the parade of hats included: Kristal Miller ’91 of Plainfield, New Jersey - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.; Shannon Jones ’98 of Willingboro, New Jersey - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Tawanda Beale ’91 of Darby - Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; Valery Coleman ’89 of Childs, Maryland; Pamela Gwathney ’88 of Bellport, New York - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Erica Green ’93 of Philadelphia - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Brenda Dunston ’80 of Philadelphia - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; April White ’06, of Aston - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Valerie McKinney-Richberg ’90 of North Hills; and Jacqueline Falcon of Hockessin, Delaware - Lincoln Ladies Auxiliary.

The winner of the Best Dressed Gentlemen contest was Keenau Fordenberry, guest of Kaci Griffin ’94 of Philadelphia.

The annual event, which benefits merit and need-based scholarship support, had more than 100 guests in attendance and was the brainchild of Board of Trustees Chairwoman Kimberly A. Lloyd ’94. **L**



*Photos by Shelley Mix*







# New Metro Nashville Schools Leader Wastes No Time

By Eric Christopher Webb '91

**For Shawn Joseph, open dialogue and collaboration are central to his leadership and ambitious agenda.**

Joseph assumed his role as director of schools for Metro Nashville Public Schools on July 1, making him the first African American to lead the 86,000-student district. A 1996 English education major and graduate of the University, he has undertaken an aggressive plan his first 100 days to ensure an efficient leadership transition, establish productive collaboration with the board of education, create deeper engagement opportunities with stakeholders and build and sustain excitement for the district's vision and efforts.

"This plan is ambitious because it has to be," says Joseph, who is also the author of a book directing principals in their first 100 days of the school year. "The children of Nashville deserve excellence now. They don't have any time to waste."

And neither does Joseph. Even in June, which was prior to his start date, he engaged in a two-day retreat with the board and executive leadership team to ensure the group speaks with one unified "Team MNPS" voice. He and the school board also held 11 "Listen and Learn" public meetings in July and early August to gather ideas for the future of the school system.



Overall, his action items address several priority areas: governance; organizational capacity; student achievement; community and public relations; and operation and finance.

“This plan is indicative of the methodical and deliberate approach Dr. Joseph has taken throughout his career and what was well demonstrated in his interactions during the interview process,” says Board of Education Chairwoman Dr. Sharon Gentry.

With his efforts, Joseph says, comes a pretty hectic schedule. His day-to-day is “busy, nonstop meetings with politicians, business leaders, principals, Central Office staff,” he says. “It’s a multi-faceted job.”

### Challenge To Collaboration

Now only a few months into his tenure, he is faced with navigating a potential challenge to collaboration with the school system suing the state for additional money for its English language learning students. While he agrees the state isn’t providing enough funding, he is cautiously reluctant.

“One of the challenges is ensuring we have adequate funding to meet the needs of our children...,” he says. “We’ve got to really think about how we fund and use resources to advantage children.”

According to previously published reports, Joseph has been an advocate for keeping open lines of communication with the state

on education funding tied to the Basic Education Program, or BEP, which determines the cost of educating a child in Tennessee, such as money for textbooks and teacher salaries. He was also not part of the conversations that led to the current lawsuit.

“You just got to be careful when one political entity sues another,” Joseph says. “Will that prohibit you from collaborating? It’s clear we have to receive adequate funding to educate our children.”

And while he has not said he does not support the lawsuit, he believes there may be other options to consider, which falls in line with his philosophy of open dialogue and collaboration.

“I understand that the governor and his team are trying to solve an issue that has been around for a long time,” he told the Nashville Tennessean during an editorial board meeting last month. “We have to accept sometimes that it can’t just happen overnight, it takes time and thoughtful planning of resources. If we sat down we might be able to find a solution.”

### The Right Person At The Right Time

Joseph, 41, who signed a four-year, \$285,000 Metro Nashville Public Schools contract, was selected in 9-0 board vote over two other finalists, which included H. Allen Smith II, chief of schools for the Oakland Unified School District in California and Jesus Jara, deputy superintendent for Orange County Public Schools in Florida.



**“We’ve got to really think about how we fund and use resources to advantage children.”**

—Shawn Joseph

The search that led to Joseph's hiring followed an earlier process where Williamson County Schools Director Mike Looney had abruptly turned down the job a year earlier, taking Metro Nashville School Board members by surprise and leaving some "hurt and frustrated."

"The most important thing is he [Joseph] is the right person, at the right time – eminently qualified – and he brings what we need to move the system forward," says board member Will Pinkson who was quoted shortly after the vote.

His work has garnered national recognition, and his expertise has been sought by other districts during transitional periods. He has won numerous awards for his work and service including: Ambassador Andrew Young Certificate of Distinguished Services (2016), American Educational Research Association's Outstanding Dissertation Award (2010) and the Middle Level Principal of the Year from the Maryland Association of Secondary School Principals (2009).

Joseph, who was the former deputy superintendent for teaching and learning in Prince George's County Public Schools in Maryland, began his career shortly after his graduation from Lincoln in Montgomery County, Maryland, where he served as an English teacher, reading specialist, and team leader at Roberto Clemente Middle School, where he would later become principal.

Previously, he worked as an assistant principal at Redland Middle School in Derwood and from 2009-2012, Joseph was also director of school performance and then departed to serve as superintendent of the much smaller Seaford School District in Delaware.

Over the years, Joseph earned a master's of education degree in reading education from Johns Hopkins University and a doctorate

of education in administration and policy studies from George Washington University.


### Thanks to Lincoln

Joseph attributes much of his success to his Lincoln experience.

"I have been successful because of my Lincoln experience," he says. "Lincoln helped me find myself and also helped me find my wife, Ocheze [Wosu], so I am very grateful . . . I stay in contact with Dr. Marilyn Button – she was the motivator – and Dr. Judith Thomas, who was in charge of the education department at the time, [Dr. Levi] Nwachuku, [Dr. Emmanuel] Babatunde, [Dr. Brenda] Savage. . . . They gave us a strong self-concept and told us and told us we could be anything we wanted if we studied and worked hard."

He adds, "Dr. Button was special. She really took the time to push us, push us intellectually and give us a love of language."

Button recalls, "Although he was soft spoken and very polite, he had firm opinions and didn't hesitate to voice them," she says. "I will never forget the day he asked in class, 'Why does Lincoln not offer a course in classical and biblical literature? This course was required when Lincoln was a seminary.' In response to his question, I prepared a syllabus for a course in biblical/classical literature, and it was approved by the Faculty. It is now offered as an elective every two years."

She added, "We are grateful to Shawn for this most important addition to our Languages and Literature Department course offerings and for being a wonderful example of LU academic excellence." 

*\*Published reports contributed to this story.*

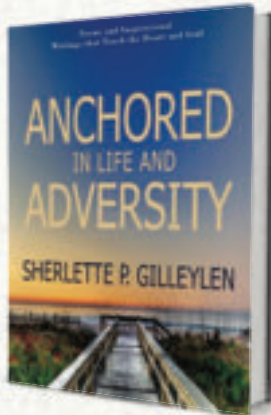


**"The most important thing is he [Joseph] is the right person, at the right time – eminently qualified – and he brings what we need to move the system forward."**

*–Will Pinkson*



# LITERARY LINCOLN

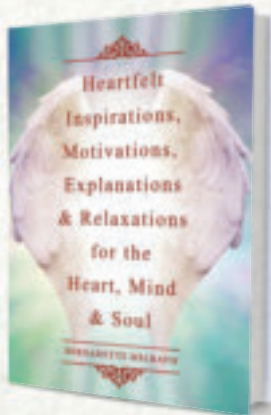


## ANCHORED IN LIFE AND ADVERSITY: POEMS AND INSPIRATIONAL WRITINGS THAT TOUCH THE HEART AND SOUL

By Sherlette P. Gilleylen '80  
Createspace, First Edition  
70 pages  
\$8.99 paperback / \$2.99 Kindle  
ISBN-10: 1522894829  
ISBN-13: 978-1522894827  
Literature & Fiction / Poetry /  
Themes & Styles /  
Inspirational & Religious  
Amazon.com

*Anchored in Life and Adversity* expresses some of the joys, hurts, and struggles of life through poetry and inspirational writings. This collection of inspirational poems and letters will touch the heart and soul. This book will inspire you to move beyond your situation and reach higher for God's best for you.

Sherlette Gilleylen, a new author, is a professional counselor by training, who brings a strong and inspiring message of hope in troubled times. She is a life coach, prayer warrior, encourager and minister of reconciliation. A devoted wife and mother, Gilleylen leads a prayer group at her church. She and her husband, Carl, reside in Memphis, Tennessee.



## HEARTFELT INSPIRATIONS, MOTIVATIONS, EXPLANATIONS & RELAXATIONS FOR THE HEART, MIND & SOUL

By Bernadette Melrath  
Tate Publishing & Enterprises  
348 pages  
\$18.99 paperback / \$13.99 eBook  
ISBN-10: 1683016971  
ISBN-13: 978-1683016977  
Literature & Fiction / Poetry  
Tatepublishing.com  
Amazon.com

*Heartfelt Inspirations, Motivations, Explanations, and Relaxations for the Heart, Mind, and Soul* by Bernadette Melrath is just that. There are poems to inspire, motivate, and provide explanation, while others offer heartfelt words to help one's mind and soul. Melrath, a program assistant in the university's Office of the Registrar, wants her readers to realize they are not insignificant and have a purpose. The work recognizes that as human beings, we need others to help us and that everyone has a breaking point. Her hope is that the book allows its readers to "stop and smell the flowers."

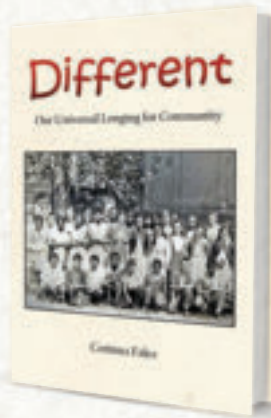


## MASTER OF CEREMONIES: A MALE'S GUIDE FOR A SUCCESSFUL LIFE

By Jonathan Harris  
Xlibris  
96 pages  
\$15.99 paperback / \$3.99 eBook  
ISBN-13: 978-1-51447-302-3  
Self-Help  
Xlibris.com

Time is life's most precious gift. Life is made up of moments, and they should not be wasted with the wrong people or doing the wrong things. In *Master of Ceremonies: A Male's Guide for a Successful Life* by Jonathan Harris, the reader will learn about ways to take ownership over one's life. Harris, a residence coordinator for the university's Office of Residence Life, offers a self-help guide to teach life skills through the importance of good self-esteem, friendship choices, healthy relationships, financial management and more. The guide is divided into two sections: Master of the Kingdom, which focuses on how to make the best choices in areas of one's self and one's inner circle, including self-esteem, spirituality, friends, family, and love just to name a few; and Master of the Jungle, which teaches the reader how to handle the outside world and its challenges, including independent living, job searching, finances, personal branding, handling emergencies, and more. Ultimately, Harris views the reader life as "a celebration" and that one must be "the Master of Ceremonies" for one's own life.





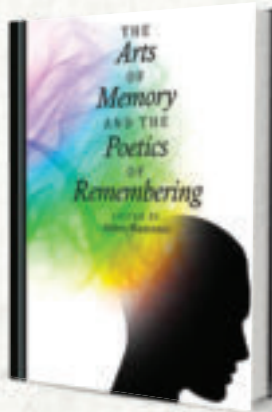
## DIFFERENT: OUR UNIVERSAL LONGING FOR COMMUNITY

By Corinna Fales  
Pacific Raven Press  
\$34.95 paperback  
ISBN-10: 0986075590  
ISBN-13: 978-0986075599  
Amazon.com

Plunging readers into disturbing and contemporary terrain of the human heart, the author (a daughter of Jewish refugees) interviews individuals from Lincoln University—the first degree-granting historically Black university—where she grew up before passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. (Fales is also the daughter of the first woman to graduate from Lincoln.) From a prominent Black civil-rights leader to the white son of an alleged KKK member, Fales interviews form an original history that illuminates our strengths and our universal difficulty with diversity.

Americans have become so guarded and careful—so concerned about saying the wrong thing—that we do not interact or communicate genuinely with each other. Fear and dishonesty, politically disguised as kindness and sensitivity, thwart open conversation about diversity and abort the possibility of real change. But the down-to-earth community portrait that emerges in *Different*, and the author's realistic and refreshing perspective on the human beings we are, create a breathing space and a way to move forward.

Ever wonder why we have always had a stressed relationship with the fact that we're different—the very fabric of human existence? Here's why, and here's hope.



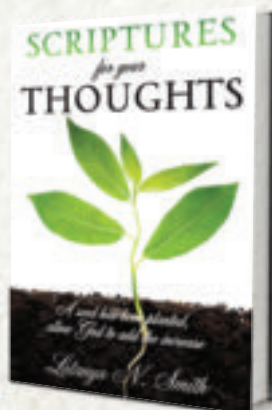
## THE ARTS OF MEMORY AND THE POETICS OF REMEMBERING

Edited By Abbes Maazaoui  
Nancy Ali, Argha Kumar  
Banerjee, Erkin Kiryaman,  
Abbes Maazaoui, Netty  
Mattar, Bryan Mead, Alejandro  
Santaflorientina, Ariane  
Santerre, Peter Schuman,  
Cheryl Renée Gooch,  
Lynn Hilditch;  
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175 pages  
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ISBN-13: 978-1443897235  
Cambridgescholars.com  
Amazon.com

*The Arts of Memory*, which is edited by Abbes Maazaoui, a Lincoln University professor of French and linguistics, is a collaborative effort of international scholars from different disciplines. It examines various literary, artistic, psychological, social, historical and political narratives. According to the introduction, the work “explore[s] the dynamics of representation, transmission and circulation of memory as well as the role of personal and collective memory in shaping meanings, values, attitudes and identities.”

The essays contained in the book are divided into four sections: the formation and transmission of personal and collective memory; personal and collection memory [continued] specifically on the representation of trauma, in reality and in fiction; conceptions of memory in specific texts and their impact on what is remembered and what is not; and the reader as customer, interpreter and witness. An essay about Lincoln's founding, *By Divine Providence: Remembering Lincoln's Founding and Reimagining its Legacy* (p. 129-142), written by Dr. Cheryl Renée Gooch, historian and former dean of the University's College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, is also in *The Arts of Memory*.

Maazaoui, who holds a doctorate in French literature and linguistics from The University of Provence Aix-Marseille in Aix-en-Provence, France, is a tenured professor in the Lincoln's College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. He has published many articles and reviews on literary criticism and twentieth-century French and Francophone literature. Maazaoui has written two books, *Proust et la clausturation* and *La Rhétorique du leurre dans Les Gommés d'Alain Robbe-Grillet* and is the editor of *The Lincoln Humanities Journal*.



## SCRIPTURES FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

By Latanya N. Smith '88  
Xulon Press  
104 pages  
\$9.34 softcover /\$5.99 Kindle  
ISBN-10: 1498472575  
ISBN-13: 978-1-4984-7257-9  
Christianity / Spirituality  
Amazon.com

*Scriptures for your Thoughts*, released in May 2016, is a quick reference book full of masterful quotes, motivating stories and encouraging commentaries. Geared for those who may be stressed, unmotivated or just feeling lost, *Scriptures for your Thoughts* was created to help people to create a spiritual habit of replacing ungodly thoughts with the Word of God.

Latanya Smith of Lansdowne, is a new author, who works as a program monitor for the state. Smith received her bachelor's degree in 1988 and her master's degree in social work from Temple University in 1997. In 2011, she received her director certification from Harcum College.



# LINCOLN IN THE LENS

## THOMAS WRITES, DIRECTS THE LADIES BOOK CLUB

By Eric Christopher Webb '91



Fred Thomas, Jr. '91 returns to the director's chair for his second feature length film, "Ladies Book Club," starring Angell Conwell ("Lyfe's Journey," "The Divorce" and "4 Play") and Lyriq Bent ("Four Brothers" starring opposite Mark Wahlberg and Andre 3000, "Take the Lead" with Antonio Banderas and Alfre Woodard and "Saw II," "Saw III," and the lead in the box office smash, "Saw IV").



According to Internet Movie Database, the straight-to-video comedy release, which features a supporting cast of television and film veterans Elise Neal ("Hustle & Flow," "Paid in Full," "Mission To Mars," and TV's "The Hughleys," "Scandal," and "Mann & Wife") and Jackée Harry ("227," "The Women of Brewster Place," "The Royal Family," and "Sister, Sister,") along with Thomas, follows roommates Bunny (Conwell) and Carlyle (Bent), who have been best friends since college, but despite their undeniable attraction for one another, they manage to keep their friendship platonic. Bunny's group of friends, including the very outspoken Rona (Neal), plus Bunny's meddling mother (Harry), would love to see the best friends cross that line once and for all - and they use their ladies book club meetings to try to spark a love connection.

Thomas, who also wrote the film, is a NAACP theatre award-winning director, playwright and producer for his play, "12' x 9'" and a former Budweiser WHAASUP! guy. His recent film and directorial credits, include the drama short, "22 Years," "24 Hour Love," and the comedy short, "After the One Night Stand: Morning After." The last two Thomas both wrote and directed.

In addition, he co-starred in the straight-to-video release, "The Bachelor Party" (2012) directed by Donald Welch, which starred Lamman Rucker, Essence Atkins, Caryn Ward, Christian Keyes and R&B singer Ginuwine.

Thomas, who was featured on TV One's "R&B Divas LA," is also the founder and CEO of the Man Myth Legend Productions. 

# CLASS NOTES

## 40s



**HORACE DAWSON '49, Ph.D.** received an honorary doctor of laws degree during Howard University's 148th Commencement Convocation on May 7. Dawson is the founding director of the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center, which grew out of an international affairs program established at Howard in 1991.

## 70s

**MAURICE BREWSTER '78**, the founder and president of Mosaic Global Transportation, which was named the official transportation provider for Super Bowl 50. Founded in 2002, the company is an international, minority-owned limousine and ground transportation business with more than 300 vehicles serving 440 cities in their worldwide network. The National Limousine Association named Mosaic Global was named one of the fastest growing companies in the industry.

## 80s

**DERECK BAKER '89**, and a Spring '88 initiate of Epsilon Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. welcomed his son, **DANE BAKER '17**, into the fraternity and his chapter as a Spring '16 Epsilon Chapter initiate.

**VANESSA FIELDS '85**, the vice president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, District Council 47, was awarded the 2016 Labor Leader Award. Philadelphia City Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds-Brown recognizes two labor leaders annually for their union and community work. AFSCME is one of the largest unions in the United States with 1.2 million active members.

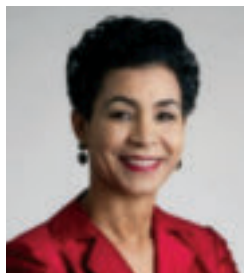


**DONALD PALM '85** was named provost and vice president of academic affairs for Virginia State University. Palm, the former associate provost for undergraduate education at Florida A&M University and a professor in the College of Pharmacy there, had spent more than two decades at Florida A&M as a professor and administrator,

winning awards for teaching and authoring numerous research papers on neuroscience. A Pittsburgh native, he earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Lincoln and a doctorate in

pharmacology from Pennsylvania State University's Hershey Medical School. Palm was also involved in post-doctoral research at Brown University on traumatic brain injury.

**DAVID SAUNDERS '85** recently joined the Pennsylvania Department of Health as the Director of Health Equity. In addition to 25 years of non-profit management experience, David brings with him extensive knowledge in the fields of education, public health, disparities and youth development. He has collaborated on health disparity reduction initiatives, developed cutting edge programs targeting underserved communities and established state training. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from Lincoln University and a Masters in Education from the Pennsylvania State University. He comes to us after serving as school health education consultant with the California Department of Education and having worked for the CMA Foundation/Sacramento and the American Cancer Society/Oakland.



**PAMELA D. BUNDY-FOSTER '84**, president and CEO of Bundy Development Corp., was elected to the Barnes Foundation Board of Trustees in April. The prestigious Barnes Foundation was established to promote the advancement of education and the appreciation of the fine arts and horticulture. Bundy-Foster, who has nearly 23 years of experience in the real estate industry ranging from developing and managing residential and commercial construction projects, to acquiring, valuing and managing real estate assets, founded her company as a vehicle to bolster neighborhoods in her adopted hometown of Washington, D.C. During the past decade, BDC has been an integral part of the downtown development occurring in the nation's capital.

**NORMAN SUBER '80** is the owner and director of player development for NoWu Training, an athletic training company. He is also athletic director for Corovian Community School, the first and only charter school in North Carolina with a health and wellness focus.

## 90s



**BERTRAM L. LAWSON II '98**, group vice president, operations and inclusion at the Freedom Valley YMCA in Royersford and chief executive officer and founder of Vintage 1854 Apparel Co. as well as a Spring '96 Beta Chapter initiate of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. welcomed his son, **RAE'QUAN WILLIAMS '18**, into the fraternity and his chapter as a Spring '16 Beta Chapter initiate.

**NINA NEWSOME '91** recently earned a doctorate in instructional leadership and technology at St. John's University in New York.

*All photos provided*



# 'SHEA GOTTA HAVE IT'

By Eric Christopher Webb '91



## *Alumna's home-based business markets handcrafted, natural bath and body products*

*Photos provided by Sandra Marigna Harmon*

**Sandra Marigna Harmon '81** credits her mother with her hobby that has now become a thriving, natural bath and body products home-based business for the last 12 years.

Her company's name, Shea Gotta Have It, plays off the name of filmmaker Spike Lee's first major motion picture, "She's Gotta Have It" and the shea butter-based ingredients in many of her products. Shea butter, which is an off-white or ivory-colored fat extracted from the nut of the African shea tree, is not only widely used in cosmetics as a moisturizer, salve or lotion, but it is also edible and is used in food preparation in Africa, according to the American Shea Butter Institute.


"It all started out as a hobby, which was influenced by mother, who was an herbalist," says Harmon, who received a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from Lincoln and part of its Dance Troupe under Jean White. "She (my mother) gave me various experiences and books, (including) 'Back To Eden' to learn this holistic view of taking care of the body."

Harmon's products, many of them sold in 4-8 ounces, include a range of items for men, women and children, including body polish, a fresh goat milk body wash, a goat milk shaving lather, and a shea butter and coconut oil-based beard balm for men

among them. The shea butter items are whipped and scented with combinations, including amaretto and brown sugar; ginger lime and green tea; oatmeal and honey; peppermint green tea; and lavender and chamomile. There is even an all-natural insect repellent for those who want to enjoy the outdoors without using chemicals to protect themselves.

The 56-year-old Harmon, who works as an outreach coordinator for the Nicetown Community Development Corporation and is a member of its Neighborhood Advisory Council in Philadelphia, sells most of her products through word of mouth and, at festivals and events, including as a regular vendor at the University's Alumni Family Gathering in July. Products are available on her website at [sheagottahaveit.weebly.com](http://sheagottahaveit.weebly.com).

Prices range from \$5 to \$20 for individual items; various gift sets are also available.

"Everything is handcrafted, all contents, by me, including the labeling," she says. "The only thing we don't do is create the actual packaging. (The products) are natural and fresh. The premise is that if you take care of the inside of your body (with what you eat), you should take care of the outside of the body." 



# ALUMNA BECOMES PHILADELPHIA'S FIRST FEMALE PRISONS COMMISSIONER

**Blanche Carney '92** recently became Philadelphia's first female prisons commissioner as well as among few women in the country in that capacity.

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*"It just so happens I'm a female in corrections," she told a reporter for Philly.com. "I do understand and appreciate people's enthusiasm...but we have the same skills, the same training. We just really like the field of corrections. And this is not for the faint of heart."*

---

Carney, 45, once a foster-care social worker, was appointed to the post by Philadelphia Mayor Kenney in April. In the Philadelphia Prison System since 1995, she previously served as deputy commissioner for restorative and transitional services as well as the system's social work supervisor and human services program administrator.

During her tenure, she has supervised and expanded educational, vocational as well as parenting programming. In addition, Carney helped set up the city's first all-female prison, Riverside Correctional Facility.

Carney, born and raised in Harrisburg, holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Lincoln and a master's degree from Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work. **L**

*Compiled from published reports.*



# ALUMNA AND TEACHER PEDALS INTO NEW ROLE AS 'ROCKAWAY ICE LADY'

By Eric Christopher Webb '91

**NANONTE "NAE" DAILEY'S LIFESTYLE IS QUITE REFRESHING. LITERALLY.**

For the last eight years, the 46-year-old sign language and performing arts teacher at Goldie Maple Academy in Rockaway, New York, has also been the proprietor of Nae's Italian Ice. She sells her brand of tasty and uniquely flavored icy treats during summers and sometimes after school from a bicycle cart she rides from school to school or between 17th Beach and 125th Beach streets along Far Rockaway Beach in Queens, New York. Her 15-year-old son, Seydonni Adams, works a push cart.

"I actually got the idea from Wendy Thompson, my sorority sister, and her husband, who were doing street festivals," says Dailey, who earned a bachelor's degree in business from Lincoln in 1993, a sign language certificate from Hofstra University, and has been teaching for the last 12 years. "She and her husband told me about the business and she wanted out so I actually bought both the freezer carts from them."

She explains that Thompson, a 1990 alumna who lived in Pennsylvania at the time, was limited to sell at street festivals only and since she didn't own a truck had to rent one for each event. In New York, however, Dailey says it was ideal for her since she didn't have many vending restrictions and could also easily transport the cart.

"I've always been able to sell at my school that I work at which helps," says the fashionable Virginia Beach, Virginia native. "When I first started, I did neighborhood block parties, street fairs, as well as private birthday parties in Brooklyn, but when I moved to Far Rockaway (from East New York), I changed one of the carts into a bicycle cart so I could cover much larger ground while my son worked the pushcart."

Her business, which she initially invested about \$3,000 for the carts and product, she says, usually runs from March through October, resuming "as soon as it's at least 60 degrees."

"During the school year, I work all day and make sure I'm out by 1 o'clock," says Dailey,

whose morning hours are spent teaching students to use sign language for gospel, Hip Hop, and spoken word performances at the Barclay Center in Brooklyn and other venues. "I hit my first school at 2:30, then 3 o'clock, 4 o'clock, and then I have a 5 o'clock camp release. On a nice 75-degree day, I make about \$250-\$280 in about a two-and-a-half hour span."

Prices range from \$2 to \$5 for her signature Italian Ice of which she dreams up some rather funky creations that her Long Island distributor mixes and she swaps out on her carts every three days. Flavors include: Grandma's Ice Tea, Lemon Meringue, Peanut Butter Cookie Dough, Reese's Peanut Butter Cup, Mint Chocolate Chip, and Caribbean Rainbow, to name a few. Each cart, she adds, holds up to six different flavors, which she promotes daily on the company's Instagram.



Photo provided by Nanonte Dailey

"This summer, I rode my bike from about 11:30 or 12 o'clock in the morning until about 7:30 at night," she says. "I focus on the beach goers, neighborhood parks, and local businesses that want to use me for advertisement or want to work in conjunction with me."

Dailey said she has several regular customers that call her every day to find out what flavors she has or to ride by. Good quality and customer appreciation offers, including deals that provide a free Italian Ice after prior purchases, she says, have ensured a loyal following. And the disco music she blasts from her bicycle cart doesn't hurt either.



Her son, who wants to pursue a career in television and film, also shot their first commercial on his iPhone, which they promote on social media.

Dailey's trademark bright red afro, which sometimes resembles one of her vibrant, Italian Ice flavors, and the disco music she blasts from her bicycle freezer cart have made her a regular fixture of the Rockaway Beach area. Now, known simply as the "Rockaway Ice Lady," she has been making news lately for her collaborations and partnerships with other local businesses. Among them, a new brewery, the Rockaway Brewing company, and Last Dragon Pizza.

With Rockaway Brewing, she pairs Hawaiian Pineapple and Brazilian Passion Fruit icees with a glass of the brewery's Pharm Sasion beer for a nameless fruity treat for adults. In addition, Dailey and Nicole Russell, owner of Last Dragon Pizza, have a catering partnership for birthday parties, block parties, private events, and festivals, they call, "Fire and Ice."

"As an entrepreneur, when I first saw Nae riding around the Rockaway community, I was super impressed by her because she branded herself so well—her bright red hair, her face imprinted on the side of her bike cart with icees swirling around her afro, all the while blasting disco," said Russell, who takes on the moniker "The Master" as homage to the cult film her pizzeria is named. "I thought to myself, 'Wow, how original.' As I got to know her, I saw her work ethic and knew it was a no-brainer to collaborate with her."

And Dailey's not stopping there.

"Next summer, I plan to have two bicycles and three push carts," she says confidently. "I plan to be on the boardwalk. I'm working out that deal with someone now. Boardwalk money is big money." 📌

**MORE INFO, CHECK OUT HER INSTAGRAM  
@ROCKAWAY\_ICE\_LADY**



## DUMPSON RECOGNIZED AMONG '10 UNDER 40'

Alumnus Dennis Maurice Dumpson '05, managing director of development at KIPP Public Charter Schools in Philadelphia, is among those recognized in The Philadelphia Tribune Magazine's '10 People Under 40 To Watch in 2016.'

Each year, the magazine recognizes more than 150 individuals in leadership positions throughout the region with their "10 People Under 40 To Watch," "Movers & Shakers," "Most Influential" and "African American Leaders" lists. Honorees were formally recognized at ceremonies at the Pennsylvania Convention Center last month.

"The Tribune Magazine is proud to continue (our historic) tradition with the annual publication of Philadelphia's Most Influential African Americans," says Shonda McClain, Tribune Magazine managing editor. "As in years past, this year's list of honorees may spark debate, which is good... Together, these distinguished men and women are moving the city forward and the Tribune Magazine salutes (them)."


At KIPP, Dumpson, 33, leads fundraising strategy and manages a \$16 million campaign to grow the school and provide a world class education to Philadelphia's youth.

A Native of South Philadelphia, Dumpson, who earned his bachelor's degree in philosophy from Lincoln in 2005, has spent the last several years building a career as a service-driven leader.

"I've activated my leadership, professionally, because of my time at Lincoln—that's a fact," says Dumpson. "I was a teenager and I was able to lead and charged to think critically about issues that matter (there). The honor of receiving The Philadelphia Tribune's 10 People Under 40 To Watch is connected to building my intelligence in a community that taught me to value my gifts—I owe a lot to Lincoln!"

Since then, he earned his master's degree in business administration in global finance from Saint Joseph's University with executive fellowship and international residency in South America and a graduate certificate from the Bryn Mawr College School of Social Work and Social Research's Nonprofit Executive Leadership Institute.

Prior to joining KIPP, Dumpson served as the vice president of development for Opportunity Finance Network (OFN), the national trade association for the community development financial institution. At OFN, Dumpson led relationships with investors from the world's largest multinational banks, corporations and national foundations that represent more than \$50 million in industry investments and \$125 million in earned assets.

Dumpson published his first book, "What My Colored Eyes See: The Words of a Decorated Child" in 2008. He also produced an episodic documentary, "Journey 2 RAHA." Dumpson has served on the boards of the YMCA, Response-Ability Volunteer Teacher program and the Arch Street Preschool. He has also worked as a donor and community partner for several organizations across the country. 

*Compiled from published reports.*

*From Left to Right: Michael Banks, Morgan Cephas, Karole Collier, Dennis Maurice Dumpson, Katherine Gilmore Richardson, Michael Howard, Rashaad Lambert, Maria J. Wing, Alex Peay, with Tribune Magazine Editor Shonda McClain.*



## 00s

**KHARY BLACKMON '09** is a candidate for license practicing counselor certification. Currently, he owns a food vending company in Philadelphia.

**JEFF JASMINE '06** is the owner of the All Season Sneakers store in Linden, New Jersey.

**ERIC DARNELL PRITCHARD '02, Ph.D.**'s first book, "Fashioning Lives: Black Queers and the Politics of Literacy" will be published in December 2016 by Southern Illinois University Press. An assistant professor of English at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, he is also working on a biography of 1980s fashion superstar, Patrick Kelly. Pritchard is the editor in chief of Glamourtunist.com, a website that covers fashion, style, and popular culture through an analysis centered on power and social justice. His writings on fashion and style have also appeared in The New York Amsterdam News, Savoy Magazine, Ebony.com, Public Books, and The Funambulist Magazine special issue on 'Clothing and Politics.' His scholarly writings on literacy, rhetoric, Black queer theory, and Black feminism have appeared in various venues including Harvard Educational Review, Literacy in Composition Studies, and Palimpsest.

## 10s



**JALEEL REDDICK '16** from Newark, New Jersey, who was undrafted, was invited to the training camp of the National Football League's New York Giants and will be given the chance to compete for a place on the team's final 53-man roster. Reddick is the first Lincoln football player to be invited to the training camp of a NFL team.



**JONATHAN RIJO '16** from Queens, New York, signed with the Sydney Express of the National Gridiron League of Australia. Rijo, who recently earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, is the first Lincoln football player to play professionally for an international football league.



**BILAL KEY '14** was recently named one of the National Wildlife Federation's EcoLeaders, which represents the top inspiring and young EcoProfessionals in the nation. Key, a certified EcoLeader and an after-school counselor at the YMCA in Queens, New York, received his certification through a 2013-14 Toyota Green Ambassadors at Lincoln. At his alma mater, he promoted the program through contests, social media, and collection of 1,350 green pledges. Key's career goal is to become a sustainability director at a Historically Black College and University and serve as a sustainability consultant for the African American and Latino communities to help address environmental justice issues needed to move toward sustainability such as food deserts and energy efficiency. **L**

*All photos provided*

# WE WANT TO KNOW

Send your accomplishments,  
milestones and publications to:  
[lucomm@lincoln.edu](mailto:lucomm@lincoln.edu)

# ONE-TIME CLIENT NOW DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY

By Maureen O. Stokes

Ericka Gaines '15 was appointed director of Child Care Information Services, a social services agency where she was once a client. Originally from Cape May County, New Jersey, Gaines relocated to Philadelphia in the mid-90s with her four children and needed childcare.

"I had a job, but needed quality childcare," Gaines says. "That's how I learned about CCIS." She places emphasis on quality because that qualifier makes a difference between someone keeping a job – without worrying about their children's welfare – or losing it.

She adds,

"When I was deemed eligible for services, it made all the difference to me. I was able to provide for my children and maintain my job."

However, when the company for which Gaines worked modernized their operation, she found herself unemployed and in search of a career change. She turned to the agency that once helped her find childcare, this time she volunteered. With a willingness to learn, Gaines organized a parent group, visited agencies in the Philadelphia area and worked alongside staff. That dedication ultimately led to a job offer. Since 1998, she's served as senior manager of parent services, provider services manager, and assistant director. In 2013, Gaines pursued a Master of Human Services at Lincoln University's University City location, graduating second in her class.

As for the Human Services program, Gaines notes it was flexibility [weekend and evening class schedule] and practical in application.

"I was able transfer knowledge learned in the classroom to the job," stated Gaines, who was being cultivated for the director position when she was months away from graduation. At that time, she was assistant director and supervised three of five departments in the agency. In January 2016, succession planning commenced for Gaines to step into the role as director which was finalized in April.

Szabi Ishtai-Zee, a faculty member at University City, recalls that Gaines "demonstrated a capacity for open-

mindedness and a zealous commitment to the pursuit of new ideas."

He adds that she was "able to make immediate connections and generate insights" pertaining to the policy, political and economic implications at the regional and governmental levels.

Gaines's vision for CCIS, which serves approximately 1,200 walk-ins per month and 5,000 families, is to build capacity for the agency.

"I want to educate staff and ensure they're appreciated and valued," she says. "Training plus valuing employees equate to great services for the clientele of North Philadelphia." **L**

"Training plus valuing employees equate to great services for the clientele of North Philadelphia."



# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN AT THE INTERSECTION OF FAITH AND LEARNING

By Shelley Mix

When students at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., returned to campus this fall, a new chaplain greeted them.

**Brandon Harris** never dreamed this is where his career would take him seven years ago when he entered Lincoln University as a freshman.

At Lincoln, Harris enrolled as a political science major with the intention of going to law school, but influences in and out of the classroom steered him to add religion as a second major and eventually complete graduate work in theology.

“Lincoln had a big role,” he says. “I had no intention of wanting to be a pastor.”

The changing goal started when he became a chapel assistant at the Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel where he helped plan Sunday Worship services, led Wednesday noon prayer, and preached regularly, which according to his peers he has a natural gift of public speaking.

“I love preaching,” Harris adds. “I believe preaching helps change the course of history.”

He said campus chaplain Rev. Frederick Faison gave students progressively more responsibility and showed them a window into what life as a chaplain is like, including allowing Harris to sit in on counseling sessions.

## Religion in the Classroom

In addition to his extracurricular chapel activities and off-campus church experiences, academics played a large part in his choosing divinity school after Lincoln.

The Rev. Dr. Gwinyai Muzorewa, Professor and Chair of the History, Political Science, Philosophy and Religion, met the 17-year-old Harris as a freshman in Introduction to Religion and recalls his “neat attire, exuding brilliance, and inviting politeness.”

“As the department chair and religion professor, I took great interest in Brandon, partly due to his work ethic, self-control, and academic enthusiasm,” Muzorewa says. “My intention was not to impress him but to help him ‘bring out’ in him what God has bestowed in him.”

Harris credits Muzorewa, adjunct professor Rev. Melvin Leaman, and former vice president for student affairs Dr. F. Carl Walton, for affirming his evolving career path.

“They were people of faith,” Harris explains. “Just going to their offices, having coffee, talking...it made a big difference.”

Harris recalls telling his parents he was going to add religion as a second major and thinking about theology school.

“They both said they always knew that would happen and that they were just waiting on me figure it out,” Harris says.

## Choosing Emory

After graduating summa cum laude from Lincoln in May 2013, the Rochester, New York, native received three full-scholarship offers to graduate school, but

after visiting Emory University in Atlanta, he knew it was the university for him.

“It reminded me of Lincoln. That’s why I chose it. It has a sense of warmth, a sense of collegiality between faculty and students.”

Harris entered a three-year program at Emory’s Candler School of Theology and earned a Master of Divinity and certificates in Black Church studies and Baptist studies in May 2016.

## Chaplain to all denominations

Now at the Catholic university Georgetown, Harris serves as the sole protestant chaplain at the law school and one of only two full-time protestant chaplains at the main campus. He is one of 25 volunteer Chaplains in Residence who live on campus and open their apartments weekly to fellowship with students.

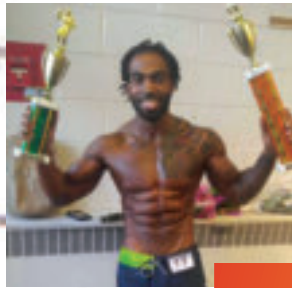
He attends worship services on Sundays with the students, but most of his time is spent at the law school counseling students in one-on-one conversations, what he calls the “ministry of coffee.”

“These conversations make a big difference in people’s lives,” Harris says of his informal chats.

“College students are trying to figure out who they are, what they want to do. Being a chaplain gives me a space to encourage people to ask questions. We prod students by asking questions.” **L**

“I believe preaching helps change the course of history.”

# Personal Training Business



# FUELS and Supports PASSION

Alumnus turns professional bodybuilder with Mr. Natural Philadelphia wins

By Eric Christopher Webb '91

For **Justin Taylor '11**, what started as a way to become healthier and then make ends meet is now growing into a bodybuilding career and a fitness company. Taylor, who received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Lincoln, says he struggled for years after graduation working as a drug and alcohol case manager, a housing counselor for HIV/AIDS population and therapeutic support staff.

"None of these positions paid enough to support myself and my child," he said. During that time, he was also trying to improve himself physically.

"When I graduated, I started losing weight and getting in shape," Taylor said. "Then, I went from 200 to 150 pounds in a six-month period. From there, I learned how to build muscle, and I saw my physique change. It looked good. I was around a bunch a guys in the gym and they told me [that I should] get into [bodybuilding] and I've been doing it ever since."

In addition, he also started a personal training business, TAL Fitness Training in 2013, which he now does full-time, working with a high school intern and two other trainers. He says that many of his clients are Lincoln alumni.

"I just found a way to become an entrepreneur and make my own way," he says. "Right now, I'm also working to get my own gym."

In May, Taylor took first place for Lightweight Men's Physique and Overall Men's Physique at the 2016 16th Annual National Gym Association Pro/Am Mr. & Ms. Natural Philadelphia Bodybuilding & Figure Championships – officially establishing him as a professional bodybuilder.

"This is the first time I won, so I got my Pro card after the show," he said. "I started competing in January 2014. I've come in 8th, 5th, 4th & 3rd. Each time I did a little bit better."

This time, however, he decided to get a coach who trained him for the competition. Taylor also changed his diet, becoming strict with his protein and carbohydrate intake as well as altering his exercise regimen.

"My cardio really changed up, and that gave me an extra push this year," he said.

Currently, Taylor is also pursuing a master's degree in clinical counseling from Eastern University with hopes of tailoring his business to address sports psychology and to reach out to African Americans, in particular, to help people understand the importance of a healthy diet.

"I just want to show people there are other ways to make money by themselves," he says. **L**

“

I just found a way to become an entrepreneur and make my own way.

”



# LIONS AT REST

James Bell, Ph.D. '52

Edgar Berry, Ph.D.

*interim vice president of student affairs*

James Douglas Brown

*former housekeeping staff from  
1970–1975*

David Budbill

*poet and author, who taught at  
Lincoln University in the 1960s*

Romaine E. Cabbage

*mother of Shawn Cabbage '88  
and Crystal Cabbage '89*

Jerome Duncan '69, Esq.

Glendon Dunn

*brother of Santo Dunn '85*

Katrina Faison

*mother of Dwayne Faison '80  
mother-in-law of Crystal Cotton  
Faison '79  
grandmother of Denai Faison '12  
and Jelani Faison '12*

Levan Gordon '58, Esq.

*former trustee, Lincoln University  
Board of Trustees*

Calvin L. Hackney '52

*father of Denise Hackney '79  
grandfather of Kia R. Hackney '01*

Gerard D. Harrigan '84

Todd Hayles '78

Richard Holmes '54

Clarence Kennerly

*grandfather of  
Alisa Kennerly Ramsey '89\**

Helen Betts Lloyd

*mother of Kimberly A. Lloyd '94,  
chairwoman, Lincoln University  
Board of Trustees*

Renaye McClain-Smith, MHS '90, Ph.D.

*adjunct faculty, Lincoln University –  
University City; graduate recruiter;  
graduate admissions*

Sandra Millner

*mother of Chavon Millner Williams '01  
sister-in-law of Sandra Marigna  
Harmon '81*

Leanna Nelson Johnson

*former secretary for dean of students*

Charles Popelak

*father of Janice Lombardo, former  
financial assistant, accounts payable,  
business office*

Mapule Ramashala

*former Master of Human Services  
program professor*

James N. Reaves '43

Narbeth Rice, Sr.

*father of Narbeth Rice '88*

Arthur “Snow” Robinson '83

Christopher Robinson '16

Bernard E. Roebuck '61

Thomas J. Rouland '71, DDS

Virginia L. Safford & Daniel B. Safford, Sr.

*parents of Susan Safford, Ph.D.,  
professor, Biology*

Dawn Simmons '81

Robert “Bobby” Spain

*grandfather of Theodore Spain '98  
great-grandfather of Taneisha Spain '13*

Norman Andre Super, Sr.

*father of Norman Super '80*

Linda W. Vestal

*mother of Foster L. Vestal '92*

Janie A. Walker

*former executive assistant to the  
vice president, academic affairs*

Mary L. Walters

*former librarian, Langston Hughes  
Memorial Library*

Edna Mitchell Washington

*grandmother of Tracey Scott-Whitaker '91*

Frances E. Weekes '81

David White '64

Dorothy Alice Porter White

*attended university in 1970s*

Ava M. Whittemore '71

Harold Wood '42

*\*Attended, but did not graduate from the University.*



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# WHERE BEING **THE FIRST** MATTERS

## *Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel and the Lintel Stone*

By Eric Christopher Webb '91



*Dr. Hildrus Poindexter '24, the first internationally recognized African American authority on tropical diseases and the first African American to earn both a medical doctorate and doctorate of philosophy poses in front of the lintel stone.*



*Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel, present day.*

*Photo by Shelley Mix*

The historic Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel, which was completed in 1890, was a gift of the late Mrs. Susan Dod Brown of Princeton, New Jersey and named for her daughter, who at nine years old was accidentally killed by a Princeton University undergraduate practicing target shooting in 1857.

According to Horace Mann Bond's "Education for Freedom: A History of Lincoln University, Pennsylvania," the lintel stone or white marble stone imbedded into the chapel wall at the entrance is inscribed with "The night is far spent, the day is at hand" from Romans, Chapter 13, Verse 12 and the date "1856." On the stone's reverse side is the figure of a hand pointing upward. The stone, which first marked one of the graves of the Hosanna Cemetery adjacent to campus and was donated by a dead man's widow, who later had the triumph of seeing her son enrolled at Lincoln, was originally the keystone of Ashmun Institute's first building, Ashmun Hall. That building, which was part of Lincoln Hall, was torn down in 1954.

During its early years, the chapel hosted a myriad of distinguished and historic figures for lectures and awards ceremonies, among them: W.E.B. Du Bois, Mary McLeod Bethune, and Paul Robeson, who decades prior to his visit had also served as the university's assistant football coach under Fritz Pollard, the National Football League's first African American head coach. **L**