Lincoln University Celebrates Its 150th Anniversary and Rich Legacy at the Philadelphia Gala

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As Lincoln University continues its yearlong celebration of its 150th anniversary as the nation’s first Historically Black University, the University proudly kicked the milestone into high gear when it hosted its first 150th Anniversary Gala at the Wyndham Philadelphia at Franklin Plaza Hotel on October 24. Lincoln will host two more galas in New York City and Washington, D.C. in 2004.

More than 600 guests—including local and regional dignitaries as well as Lincoln alumni—attended the black tie affair, including Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell and his wife, Judge Midge Rendell, Third U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The Philadelphia Gala raised $160,085. Governor Rendell and wife made a personal pledge of $10,000 to Lincoln University. Philadelphia Mayor John F. Street (D-Phila.) also attended the event. Among the other notable highlights of the Philadelphia Gala were Lincoln’s award presentations to four individuals for their distinguished achievements.

The Philadelphia Gala also featured noted speakers and the showing of a short video paying tribute to Lincoln on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. Wachovia and PECO Energy were the event’s lead corporate sponsors. In addition, the Wachovia Foundation donated $60,000 to the University (see following photo caption for details). The following are scenes from a truly stunning evening in which Lincoln University was center stage.

President Ivory V. Nelson, and Board of Trustees Chairman Frank C. Gihan ‘72 (second and third from left, respectively) are flanked by Wachovia Bank officials who presented Lincoln with an oversized check for $60,000 from the Wachovia Foundation. Making the presentation from Wachovia Bank are executive vice president Donn G. Scott (left), and Kevin Dow, community affairs manager for the Wachovia Foundation. Fifty-thousand dollars of the check creates the Wachovia Endowed Scholarship Fund for Lincoln students who are from the city of Philadelphia and demonstrate financial need. The other $10,000 is given in support of Lincoln’s Sesquicentennial Anniversary Philadelphia Gala program. Scott, co-chair of the University’s Sesquicentennial Commission, is a 1970 Lincoln alumnus. Wachovia has provided more than $1.1 million in scholarship assistance to students in Pennsylvania and Delaware in the past three years.

University President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D. (far right), is joined by, from left: his wife, Dr. Patricia A. Nelson, co-chair of Lincoln’s Sesquicentennial Commission; Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell and his wife, Judge Midge Rendell, Third U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, at the University’s 150th Anniversary Gala celebration.
Embracing Lincoln University Emeritus Trustee Frank “Tick” Coleman ’35 is Philadelphia Mayor John F. Street.

Lincoln President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D. (left) and Board of Trustees Chair Frank C. Gihan ’72 (right) present the University’s Community Service Award to Kenneth (Kenny) Gamble. Gamble currently serves as CEO and chairman of the board of Philadelphia International Records and is credited for being the musical pioneer in the development of soul/rhythm and blues music in America. Gamble received the coveted Grammy Award in 1974 and 1989. He also assisted, developed and founded numerous community organizations, including African American Foundation, Universal Institute, The Universal Community of Truth, and the South Philadelphia Ministries. In founding Universal Community Homes in 1993, Gamble began one of the largest community revitalization projects in Philadelphia history.

Lincoln President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D., (right), presents Lozelle J. DeLuz, Ph.D., with the University’s Leadership Excellence Award at the Philadelphia Gala. Dr. DeLuz has achieved success in three distinct careers: education, publishing and as an entrepreneur. She is president and CEO of DeLuz Management Consulting, Inc. and the former owner of three Wilmington-area McDonald’s franchises along with her late husband, Anthony. Employing nearly 300 people, Dr. DeLuz is not just a business woman, but a community leader, volunteer, philanthropist and mentor. Dr. DeLuz earned her B.S. degree in elementary education from Winston-Salem State University, a master’s degree from George Washington University, and Ph.D. in urban affairs and public policy from the University of Delaware.

Lincoln President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D., (left) and Board of Trustees Chair Frank C. Gihan ’72 (right), present Dr. H. Alfred Farrell with the Distinguished Alumni Award at the Philadelphia Gala. Dr. Farrell graduated Magna Cum Laude from Lincoln University in 1934 and was salutatorian of his class. In 1939, Dr. Farrell received his master’s in English from Ohio State University while serving as a graduate assistant at the university. Dr. Farrell went on to receive his Ph.D. from Ohio State in 1948 before returning to his alma mater in 1953 as an assistant to Dr. Horace Mann Bond, Lincoln’s first black president. For 16 years, Dr. Farrell was chairman of Lincoln’s Department of English and served as executive secretary of the University’s Alumni Association for 30 years. Dr. Farrell was also the editorial consultant for Dr. Bond’s book, Education For Freedom: A History of Lincoln University, Pennsylvania.

See CELEBRATES, page 3
Lincoln President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D. (left), and Board of Trustees Chair Frank C. Gihan ’72 (right), present Walter P. Lomax, Jr., M.D. with Lincoln’s Business Excellence Award at the Philadelphia Gala. Dr. Lomax began his medical career as a solo practitioner in the South Philadelphia neighborhood in which he grew up and went on to establish Lomax Health Systems, Inc. (LHS), a management company concentrating exclusively on health care. Today, Dr. Lomax serves as chairman of The Lomax Companies, which includes two international food companies, a residential development and a communications company. Dr. Lomax is a graduate of LaSalle University and Hahnemann Medical College and was affiliated with Graduate Hospitals.

Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell greets Andrea L. Custis, president and chief operating officer of Verizon Avenue (a subsidiary of Verizon) and a new Lincoln Trustee.

See CELEBRATES, page 4
Lincoln University students were also part of the University staff that helped welcome guests to the Philadelphia Gala. From left are Misty Brown ’04 and Tiffany Williams ’06.

Just before its 150th Anniversary Gala dinner at the Wyndham Philadelphia at Franklin Plaza Hotel, Lincoln hosted a reception. Joining University President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D. (second from left) are, from left: Donn G. Scott ’70, co-chair of Lincoln’s Sesquicentennial Commission, and an executive vice president at Wachovia Bank; Sharlene Roberson ’80, a former Lincoln Trustee, and senior support consultant, SAP America; Frank C. Gihan ’72, chair of Lincoln’s Board of Trustees, and director of Community Relations, Chicago Tribune; and Warren R. Colbert, Sr. ’68, Lincoln Trustee and chair of the University’s Board of Trustees’ Development Committee, and a first vice president at UBS Financial Services.

Many Lincoln University alumni rekindled old friendships during the University’s 150th Anniversary Gala on October 24, 2003 at the Wyndham Philadelphia at Franklin Plaza Hotel. From left are: Robert L. Wright ’42, Rev. Thomas W.S. Logan, Sr. ’35, Rev. Dr. Frank R. Gordon ’39, Raymond Barnes ’50 and William B. Cuff ’39.

Lincoln University students were also part of the University staff that helped welcome guests to the Philadelphia Gala. From left are Misty Brown ’04 and Tiffany Williams ’06.

See CELEBRATES, page 5
Lincoln University’s Concert Choir performed a number of musical selections during the Philadelphia Gala. Dr. William B. Garcia, director of Lincoln’s School of Visual and Performing Arts, is the choir’s conductor.

Lincoln University staff welcomed Philadelphia Gala guests upon their arrival. From left are: Veleka Sweeting ’02, coordinator, Women’s Center; Ihsan Mjahid ’02, coordinator, Student Employment; and Susan Powell, assistant director, Upward Bound.

Philadelphia Mayor John F. Street (standing) greets Emeritus Trustee Dr. Frank “Tick” Coleman ’35, Special Assistant to the President for Alumni Giving. Sitting in front of Dr. Coleman is Lincoln Board Chair Frank C. Gihan ’72. To the Mayor’s left is Pamela Crawley, senior vice president, Citizens Bank.

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George Lyons, Jr., vice president of Regulatory, Communications and External Affairs, PECO Energy, addresses the audience.

See CELEBRATES, page 6
the 150th Anniversary Gala in Philadelphia

Former Lincoln Trustee Sharlene Roberson ’80 (standing, center) chats with Charlotte L. Wroton ’84 (left). To Roberson’s left is Kimberly Long-Jones ’79. Standing is Joseph Williams, class of 1968.

From left: Kenny Gamble and his wife, Faatimah; Walter P. Lomax Jr., M.D., and his wife, Beverly. Both men were recognized by Lincoln for their achievements.

Monique Braxton, news anchor and reporter for NBC-10 TV in Philadelphia, was the Philadelphia Gala’s mistress of ceremonies.
Good Evening. To our distinguished guests, Governor Edward G. Rendell, Mayor John F. Street, distinguished honorees; mistress of ceremonies; chair of the Lincoln University Board of Trustees, Trustees, supporters of Lincoln, alumni; students; faculty; and staff, I bring you greetings at our Philadelphia Gala, a Sesquicentennial celebration.

One hundred and fifty years ago in 1853, a Presbyterian Minister named John Miller Dickey stood in the pulpit of the Oxford Presbyterian Church and set forth the design of a higher educational institution for youth of African descent. On April 29, 1854, an Act was passed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania establishing at or near a place call Hinsonville, in the county of Chester an institution of learning for the scientific, classical and theological education of colored youth of the male sex. This institution was given the name Ashmun Institute.

On April 4, 1866 the Act was amended changing the name of Ashmun Institute to Lincoln University. In answering the question "Why a Lincoln University?" His answer "We must take things as we find them; we must do the best we can under the circumstances we are placed in, and not suffer the work of God to linger until all prejudice be removed. It may be that all will enjoy peace, and the humble class be better cared for if they possess a school of their own."

A Lasting Legacy and Bright Future

Lincoln University has a gift of history. It has been and still remains a part of a dramatic narrative that began in 1854. We are the heirs of the struggles and successes of every Lincoln University generation, from the John Miller Dickey to the present-day successes so chronicled in our history. Each member of the alumni has added to that legacy, spread the Lincoln message, and enriched the Lincoln story.

The idea of Lincoln University has been tested and refined over the course of 149 years. And again tonight, "I tell you with all certainty that Lincoln's days of greatest triumph and glory lie not in the past, but in the future." Yes, I am still convinced this evening that Lincoln University's days of greatest fanfare and exultation will be revealed in the years to come.

One cannot ignore the on-going transformation of the campus. The $29.4 million capital infrastructure project to improve communication, technology, security and heating capabilities is currently underway. Additional Commonwealth capital funding in the amount of $80 million will allow us to build a new state-of-the-art science building and new cultural center for the southern Chester county region. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, the best is yet to come.

A University Event of Great Significance

To Governor Rendell and Mayor Street - thank you. Your presence speaks volumes to us all. To NBC-10 news anchor and reporter Monique Braxton, mistress of ceremonies, thank you for lending your excellent communication skills and your presence to the success of this evening.

To the exemplary Lincoln University Concert Choir — our students and future leaders — thank you for representing the University in such a magnificent fashion.

To our illustrious honorees, your commitment to excellence and your community is a badge that you all wear with humility and grace. We are, indeed, proud to honor your achievements on this very special occasion in the history of Lincoln University. Thank you for being with us.

To Mr. David Girard-diCarlo and Ms. Charisse Carney-Nunes, thank you for taking time from your schedules to celebrate with us this evening.

To the Lincoln University administration and staff, thank you for your efforts in planning this gala event.

There are so many others whose participation and support were instrumental to the success of this gala celebration.

- The Lincoln University Board of Trustees who have been unwavering in their support of the mission of the University.

See WELCOME, page 10
President’s Contributors Awards Luncheon Among Highlights of Philadelphia Gala, Homecoming October 24-25, 2003 Weekend

Each year, Lincoln University recognizes its largest financial alumni donors at the President’s Contributors Awards Luncheon. As the University continues a yearlong celebration of its 150th anniversary, this year’s October 25 President’s Contributors Awards Luncheon was nestled between the Philadelphia Gala on October 24 and Homecoming 2003 festivities, also on October 25. The following are scenes of a fun-filled and eventful weekend at the University.

The President’s Contributors Awards Luncheon honored alumni contributors who attended the luncheon and previously donated $1,000 or more.

Charles Fleming III, a senior Computer Science major, and Venice R. Garner, senior Communications/Journalism major, were crowned “Mr. and Ms. Lincoln University” for Homecoming 2003. Lincoln University President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D., offered his congratulations.

Gold Club ($9,999 to $5,000)—From left: Rev. Calvin S. Morris ’63, Ph.D., Board of Trustees Vice Chair; Tehma H. Smith ’00, Warren R. Colbert, Sr. ’68, Trustee and chair of the Board’s Development Committee; and Robert A. James ’66.

Orange & Blue Club ($4,999 to $2,500)—From left: Dr. Jacqueline Faulcon (her husband is Dr. Clarence A. Faulcon ’50); William C. King, Esq. ’73, former vice chair, Board of Trustees; Dr. Abdulalim A. Shabazz ’49, Distinguished Professor of Mathematics; Karla Q. Harris ’77; George T., Jr. ’71 and Portia M. ’77 Hedgespeth; Dr. Don N. Harris ’51; Dr. Patricia A. Nelson, wife of President Nelson, and co-chair of Lincoln’s Sesquicentennial Commission, and Trustee Phyllis G. Woolley-Roy ’85.

John Miller Dickey Society ($2,499 to $1,000)—From left: Sandy Yates, Lincoln’s senior director for Development and Major Gifts; Dr. Richard M. O’Daniel ’68, Lincoln’s director for Program Development; Thelma L. Hill ’71, Dr. H. Alfred Farrell ’34, LaVora Valentine ’80 and Kathleen Butler ’89.
Thank You Lincoln Alumni For Supporting the 150th Anniversary Gala in Philadelphia

For the Lincoln alumni who attended Lincoln’s 150th Anniversary Gala in Philadelphia on October 24, you know what a special evening it was. The University would like to thank all of its alumni who supported this milestone moment in University history. We hope you will support our upcoming Galas in Washington, D.C. (April 17, 2004) and New York City (May 6, 2004).

The following is a listing of Lincoln alumni who attended or financially contributed to this exciting affair. If we have omitted anyone from this listing, please accept our sincere thanks as well.

Sharon B. Akings ‘91
Dr. Robert L. Albright ’66
Parliamentarian, Lincoln Board of Trustees
Hon. Jacqueline F. Allen ’74
Herschel L. Bailey ’66
William M. Barber ’74
Raymond Barnes ’50
Bruce M. Benton ’75, Executive Secretary, Lincoln Alumni Association
Eugene S. Bivins III ’57
Bonnie Bowser ’78
Diane M. Brown, MHS ’98
Howard H. Brown, Esq. ’68
Van Buren G. Brown, Sr. ’79
Wendell P. Brown ’38
Gerald W. Bruce ’78
Charisse A. Carney-Nunes ’88
Dr. Harold Carter, MHS ’91
Dr. Bronell E. Chandler ’79
Warren R. Colbert, Sr. ’68, Trustee
Dr. Frank “Tick” Coleman ’35, Emeritus Trustee
Dr. Edward S. Cooper, Sr. ’46
Ulysses T. Cosby ’70
Paula G. Coy, MHS ’01
William B. Cuff ’73
Maceo N. Davis ’70
Vernon E. Davis ’86, President, Philadelphia Alumni Chapter
Judith A. Dill ’79
Dr. James A. Donaldson ’61
Bishop David G. Evans ’74, Trustee
Camille Exum ’90
Dr. H. Alfred Farrell ’34
Charles S. Farrell ’73
Leonard E. Ferguson, Jr. ’77
Charles Fleming, Jr. ’80
Israel J. Floyd, Esq. ’68
Hon. Ronald J. Freeman, Jr. ’69
Frank C. Gihan ’72, Chairman, Lincoln Board of Trustees
Rev. Frank R. Gordon ’39
Hon. Levan Gordon ’58, Trustee
Blair M. Green ’94
Floyd W. Green III ’81
Tamara D. Green ’94
Thomas P. Gunn ’66
Michael K. Haskins ’72
Theodore F. Hawkins, Jr. ’68
Dr. Walter W. Haynes ’43
George T. Hedgespeth, Jr. ’71
Portia M. Hedgespeth ’77
Darryl Hicks ’78
Thelma L. Hill ’71
Dawn A. Holden ’00
Traper J. Jervay ’65
Lisa M.B. Johnson ’85, President, Lincoln Alumni Association
William C. King, Esq. ’73
Dr. David E. Knox ’72, Trustee
Wilbert F. Lavest ’88
Sharman F. Lawrence, MHS ’98
Donna M. Laws, MHS ’01
Janice Golden Lewis ’89
Paul S. Lewis ’42
Kimberly A. Lloyd ’94
Rev. Thomas Logan, Sr. ’35
Vernon W. Lucas ’80
Ayodeji O. Mabogunje ’02
Belinda F. Mahone-Williams ’79
Darlene Malden ’82
Irene R. Marshall ’91
Loren C. Mayes-Winslow ’77
Dr. Joseph Meade ’69
Anthony Meekins ’84
Gregory C. Miller ’77, Trustee
Rev. Calvin S. Morris ’63, Ph.D.
Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees
Ihsan Mujahid ’02
P. Dorothea Murray ’59
Karen E. Nicholas ’79
Anthonia N. Nnamani ’00
Dr. Richard M. O’Daniel ’68
Cherelle L. Parker ’94
Dr. James A. Parker ’42, Emeritus Trustee
Charles A. Preston, Jr. ’50
Dr. Felix E. Ramdial ’70
Oscar L. Rider ’78
Sharlene V. Roberson ’80
Caron L. Robinson ’78
William A. Robinson ’42
Barbara J. Russell MHS ’98
Mallory Sanford ’74
Donn G. Scott ’70, Trustee and Co-Chair, Sesquicentennial Commission
Donn G. Scott, Jr. ’96
Dr. Abdulalim A. Shabazz ’49
Lawrence L. Smallwood, Jr. ’63
Thomas Chico Stafford ’73
Dr. J. Paul Stephens ’68
Veleeka Sweeting ’02
Robert T. Tate ’75
Michael C. Taylor ’95
Gladys Lockman Thomas ’76
L. Jackson Thomas II, Esq. ’73
Mirian L. Torain ’90
Kevin Sadiki Travick ’78
Anthony Walker ’73
Edgar D. Walker ’70
Hon. Robert A. Wright ’41
Charlotte L. Wroton ’84
Michael R. Young ’78
(Continued from Page 8)

University. I want to extend a special thank you to those members who are here with us tonight.

• To the Philadelphia Gala Committee, thank you for your time, commitment and efforts in the planning and execution of this gala event. Your support and dedication are very much appreciated and welcome as we celebrate our 150th anniversary and beyond.

• To my wife, Dr. Patricia Nelson, and Trustee Donn Scott, co-chairs of the Sesquicentennial Commission, thank you for your dedication, guidance and direction throughout this yearlong Sesquicentennial Celebration.

• To our sponsors. Your financial support and your presence this evening is more than appreciated. It attests that Lincoln University is on the right path; that what we are doing is worthy of your promotion and your endorsement. Please accept our thanks and appreciation for your belief in the mission of Lincoln University. We look forward to a long and mutually rewarding relationship with all of you.

• To the Lincoln University alumni. Thank you for your presence this evening, your contributions throughout the year, your support of our programs and students, and for reinforcing the importance and significance of a Lincoln education.

I would also like to acknowledge a debt of gratitude to the Philadelphia Tribune, which recently published a wonderful insert on Lincoln University and its accomplishments. Copies of the insert as well as the paper, are available for all of you as you leave for the evening.

These are exciting times at Lincoln University. Times when we can all be proud of our association and ties to this pillar of excellence — the nation’s oldest Historically Black University. I want to thank all of you for joining us tonight as we celebrate our rich legacy of 150 years and the promise of a bright and illustrious future. Together we can "Advance the Lincoln Legacy." 

Alumni Notes

A periodic news and notes column on the alumni of Lincoln University

Alumni Note brings you alumni updates, relevant alumni and university news and most importantly — information on what your fellow Lincoln classmates are doing and thinking. Please look for it periodically in the Lincoln Lion and regularly in the Lincoln Review.

Here’s an excerpt of what Julius M. Gray ’33 had to say to fellow alumnus Walter D. Chambers ’52, a 2003 Lincoln honorary degree recipient, in a recent letter regarding his reunion with classmate Dr. Henry Cornwell ’33 during the Founder’s Day/Alumni Weekend Emeritus Luncheon in May.

Dear Brother Lincolnite:

The photograph I received from you through my classmate and dear friend, Dr. Henry Cornwell ’33, was a very happy surprise. What a very thoughtful and generous gesture on your part. Thank you. My visit to Lincoln to celebrate the 70th anniversary of my 1933 graduation was, indeed, a very happy experience for me. Everyone was warm and friendly, exemplifying, as always, the true Lincoln spirit. So many greeted me, to shake hands and embrace me.

Yours for Lincoln,

Julius M. Gray

Dr. Terrance A. Gomes ’67 became the 13th president of Roxbury Community College in Massachusetts on May 27, 2003.

Oscar Harris ’65, a former University Trustee, on his receipt of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce Small Business Person of the Year Award. Harris is the founder of Turner Associates, an architectural design and planning firm.

Alisa R. Drayton ’90, has been appointed to the Boston College Law School Alumni Council for a two-year term (2003-2005). She is a corporate finance associate within the Capital Markets Group of Fleet Securities, Inc.

In Memorial

It is with great sorrow that the University asks Lincoln’s alumni to remember the life of Bennie Lee Turner, III, class of 1974, who died on July 28, 2003. Lincoln held a memorial service at Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel on October 25, 2003 to celebrate Mr. Turner’s life.

If you have information regarding yourself, other Lincoln alumni or an alumni-related item you want considered for publication, please send it to: Michael C. Taylor ’95, Director, Office of Alumni Relations, 1570 Baltimore Pike, P.O. Box 179, MSC 97, Lincoln University, PA 19352. You may also e-mail him at mtaylor@lu.lincoln.edu
Purchase Your Piece of History
Sesquicentennial Anniversary Merchandise & Collectibles**
— Limited Editions —

Prices include tax and shipping costs. For more information on the listed sale items and other merchandise, please contact the Office of Special Events and Community Relations at (610) 932-8300, ext. 3224, or 1235.

Sweatshirts
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Oval Bread Tray $38

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*Tee shirts and sweatshirts are also available in other sizes.

Customed-Designed Wooden Collectibles
(Items come in gift box with history of building on the back.)

Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel $20

Lincoln University Alumni Arch $16

**For more sale items, see the University's Web site at www.lincoln.edu